Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

Volume XXIII No.1 *January 2000*

New Conference Officers for New Millennium

Shirley Jacocks
Secretary of Program Resources

Angelique M. White
Communications Coordinator

Nell Hayes
Elected to Four-Year Term
Nominating Committee

Helen B. Green
Elected to Four-Year Term
Nominating Committee

Shirley Gassen Jacocks is a native of Sulphur, Louisiana where she participated in the life of Henning Memorial Methodist Church. She is a graduate of Sulphur High School and received a B.S. degree from Centenary College. Shirley retired after 28 years of teaching. The last 20 years were as a kindergarten teacher. She also received a Master of Education degree from Southeastern Louisiana University. Shirley is married to Rev. W.M. (Ken) Jacocks, a retired United Methodist Minister. They are parents of 4 children and 5 grandchildren. Their first appointment was to the Provencal/Flora charge while they were students at Centenary College. Other appointments in Louisiana were: Associate Minister at Carrollton in the New Orleans District and also to organize a new congregation at Aurora in the New Orleans District. They also served at Magnolia in Baton Rouge, Pearl River, St. Marks in Monroe, Wesley Chapel (Ponchatoula), The Wesley Foundation at S.L.U., Gonzales and LaPlace. Shirley and Ken are now living in Hammond where they participate in First United Methodist Church.

Angelique M. White is a graduate of Dillard University and received Master Degrees from Xavier University and L.S.U. Medical Center in Nursing. She is presently enrolled in a Doctor of Nursing degree and also in the Deaconess Program of the General Board of Global Ministries. She is a nursing instructor and consultant for local day care centers in New Orleans. Angelique is involved in many community activities and has been the recipient of several awards and honors.

Nell Hayes has served her local unit as Vice-President, Circle Leader and Program and Membership Chairperson. She organized a young womens circle and it was named in her honor. She has also served as District President, Vice-President and Secretary.

Helen Green is employed at Asbury U.M.C. Day School. She is a member of Immanuel U.M.C. where she serves as President of her local unit, Treasurer of her church, sings in the choir, and serves on the Acadiana District Committee on Ordained Ministry. She is married to Francis Green and they have seven children.

From the President

The year 2000 has finally arrived! The beginning of a new year is an ideal time to look back and reflect upon the events the past year. As our minds recall the events, we will probably remember times of sorrow and pain, but hopefully there will also be fond memories of joy and happiness. May we look back with an attitude of gratitude and thank God for his love and guidance during the past year. I am grateful to each member of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women for her unique contributions and services to her unit, her district, and the conference during the past year. Each member's dedicated service is needed in order to carry out Jesus' command "Feed My Sheep."

The new year is also a time to look forward with anticipation. Yes, there will still be meetings to attend and reports to fill out; but there will also be smiles, hugs, words of encouragement, talks with old friends and meetings with new friends. Great joy fills our hearts when we give of ourselves in service to others.

Greet the new year with a smile of gratitude for past blessings. Reflect for a few moments and smile again as you anticipate the many opportunities for service to United Methodist Women in this historic year of 2000.

Elouise Sanders, President
Louisiana Conference UMW

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women truly "labored into His harvest" in 1999, but we still fell short of our Conference Pledge to Mission. We paid $237,295.27 on our pledge of $260,000.00. We also paid an additional $38,792.97 in designated funds. Five of the nine districts met their pledge and two others came very close.

As we enter a new year and a new century, let us renew our commitment to our PURPOSE and to "feeding His sheep."

I thank each of you for your support and wish you a year of joy, love, hope and peace in Christ Jesus.

Evelyn Evans, Treasurer

South Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women

QUADRENNIAL MEETING

Hosting:
Core Planning Group & Nominating Committee
Oklahoma Conference
&
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference
Date: March 17-19, 2000
Tulsa, OK

Theme:

"Leading the Way in God's Mission"

Scripture: II Corinthians 2:14
But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing him.

Mission statement
Knowing God, empowered by the Holy Spirit for mission, the United Methodist Women of the South Central Jurisdiction gather to study, learn,elect leaders and to vision for the future.

Spiritual Enrichment · Fellowship · Music · Workshops · Food · Tours and much, much more

Remember the motto:
One Thousand in Two Thousand

Make your plans now to attend!
Everyone Welcome!

THE ESTELLE DAMERON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women annually provides interested women an opportunity to attend its School of Christian Mission through the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship was founded in 1981 and honors the late Estelle Darsey Dameron, 1906 - 1996. The scholarship continues to grow in Mrs. Dameron's honor through gifts, special offerings, and yearly contributions from local UMW units. This tradition is even more important as we prepare for mission in the year 2000 and beyond.

The Membership Nurture & Outreach Committee is encouraging young, seasoned, energetic, single, married, employed, homemakers, students or newly retired women to apply for a scholarship. Applicants can come from a large or small unit and we will also consider persons other than members of United Methodist Women. Getting women interested in mission at an early age and at new life stages is one way to insure the vitality and growth of an educated, mission minded membership. Please urge women in these age/interest categories to apply. All applicants should indicate a willingness to attend and participate fully in all activities of the school. One applicant per unit **and first timers ONLY** should send a completed application form with a written statement of 50 words or more, entitled: **I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because . . .**

Applications must be postmarked by March 31, 2000 and mailed to:

Brenda Canty
3509 North 38th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant_____ Phone ( )_____

Applicant's Address_____ State____Zip_____

Unit (church) Name_____ District_____

Unit President or Contact Person_____

President or Church Address_____ State____Zip_____

(1) Has applicant attended a School of Christian Mission before?

☐Yes
☐No

(2) Applicant's age grouping:

☐High School ☐under 35
☐36-50 ☐51 and older

(3) Employment:

☐Fulltime ☐Part time
☐Retired ☐Student ☐Homemaker

(4)Applicant's choice of study:

☐God's People in an Urban Culture ☐Children of Africa

Include a written statement: **I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because . . .** (A separate sheet may be used)

2000 School Sets New Start and End

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will host School of Christian Mission at the Louisiana Conference Retreat Center, 2350 Methodist Parkway, Woodworth, LA 71485.

In an effort to continue using Conference Retreat Center facilities, the new start and end dates for the 2000 school will be **Tuesday - Friday, July 18-21, 2000.**

Earlier Application Deadline for Estelle Dameron Scholarships

In an effort to attract first timers to attend the School of Christian Mission and become educated for Mission, the Membership Nurture & Outreach Committee is requesting an earlier application due date for Dameron Scholarships. Applications must be completed, include a written statement of 50 words or more entitled: I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because... and postmarked **Friday, March 31, 2000.** An application form is included on this page.

Dameron Alumni Association

Are you a past recipient of the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship? Founded in 1981, this scholarship has enabled several students to attend the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women School of Christian Mission.

All good schools deserve a great Alumni Association to encourage its continued success.

We would love to recognize our Alums. Please send your name, church, and the year that you received your scholarship to Brenda Canty, Conference Membership Nurture and Outreach Mission Coordinator, 3509 North 38th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70805.

THE STORY OF THE VEGETABLES AND FRUIT
(An Indian legend)

Once upon a time, all the vegetables in the world started to quarrel; each claimed that she was the best, the most important, the most useful, the favorite.

The GREEN PEPPER said: Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and hope. I was chosen for grass, trees, leaves -- without me all the people would die. Look out over the countryside and you will see that Green is in the majority.

The YELLOW SQUASH chuckled: You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no justice. I squash out prejudice and injustice.

The ORANGE started next to blow her own trumpet: I am the color of health and strength. I may be scarce, but I am precious for I serve the inner needs of human life. I carry the most important vitamins. Think of carrots and pumpkins, mangoes and pawpaws. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the fruit basket, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you.

The RED TOMATO could stand it no longer. He shouted out: I'm the ruler of you all. Imagine spaghetti without tomato sauce, fried potatoes without ketchup, and a green salad without a tomato. How about a February valentine in green and yellow? Without me the earth would be empty as the moon. I am the color of passion and love; the red rose, poinsettia and poppy.

The PURPLE EGGPLANT rose up to his full height. He was very large and he spoke with great pomp: I am the color of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs and bishops have always chosen me for my color in the sign of authority and wisdom. I add great variety to the world of food.

The BLACK OLIVE spoke more quietly than all the others, but just as determinedly: Think of me. I am the color of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep waters. The world needs me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace.

And so the vegetables and fruit went on boasting, each convinced that they were the best. Their quarrelling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a startling flash of brilliant white lightning; thunder rolled and the wind blew fiercely. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The vegetables and fruit all crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

Then Rain spoke: You fools, fighting among yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Do you not know that God made you all? Each for a special purpose, unique and different. He loves you all. He wants you all. Join hands with one another and come with me and together we will squash out racial prejudice and injustice throughout the world.

God has scattered mankind across the earth in a great quilt of colors as a reminder that He loves you all, and that you can live together in peace.

-based on an Indian legend
written by Anne Hope, 1978
(adapted by Muriel Miller,
Former Conference Coordinator
Social Action)

Gwen Streams

Congratulations to Gwen Streams, our former Secretary of Program Resources. She has been selected to receive a South Central Jurisdiction Scholarship to the meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Editor's Note: *Gwen shared the following with us having received it from her daughter.*

JUST THINK . . .

What if
God couldn't take the time to bless us today because
we couldn't take the time to thank Him yesterday?

What if
God decided to stop leading us tomorrow because
we did not follow Him today?

What if
we never saw another flower bloom because
we grumbled when God sent the rain?

What if
God didn't walk with us today because
we failed to recognize it as His day?

What if
God took away the Bible tomorrow because
we would not read it today?

What if
God took away His message because
we failed to listen to His messenger?

What if
the door of the church was closed because
we failed to love and care for others?

What if
God would not hear us today because
we did not open the door of our heart?

What if
God stopped loving and caring for us because
we failed to love and care for others?

What if
God answered our prayers the way
we answer His call for service?

What if
God met our needs the way
we give Him our lives???

What if
We failed to
Pass this on?

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Begin Planning 2000 School of Christian Mission

Paul Sends Greetings and an Invitation to Study

54 A.D. and all Eternity

Paul, Apostle of Jesus and Missionary

All Saints of the Church at Corinth and in the Louisiana Conference

Grace to you
and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

I am writing to announce an important event scheduled for July, 2000. The Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will host the Conference, 5th Children's, and 2nd Teen Women's School of Christian Mission. As I wrote in II Corinthians 1:8, 'for we do not want you to be ignorant,'...brothers and sisters we want you to study the world and its concerns. The studies will include my letters to the Corinthians, God's People in an Urban Culture and Children of Africa. The Children will study Children of Africa, and the Teen Women will do a combined study of my letters and Urban Culture.

Women's Division has chosen a great theme, "Sowing Seeds of Bounty," with scripture based on II Corinthians 9:6. Why don't you mark your calendar and plan to attend?

Tuesday - Friday, July 18-21, 2000
Louisiana Conference Center
a United Methodist Center for Spiritual Renewal
2350 Methodist Parkway
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485

Well, I'll close as in II Corinthians 13: 11, 14, 'Finally, brethren, farewell...Love and Peace...be with you.' Until July, 2000, The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ...Love of God...and the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

Sow and reap bountifully,

Paul

P.S. This new computer really beats writing on papyrus, and carrying around all those scrolls!

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
School of Christian Mission,
Fifth Annual
Children's School of Christian Mission, and
Second Teen Women's School of Christian Mission

Theme: "Sowing Seeds of Bounty"
Scripture: II Corinthians 9:6

Tuesday - Friday, July 18-July 21, 2000
Louisiana Conference Center
a United Methodist Center for Spiritual Renewal
2350 Methodist Parkway
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485

Rita M. Parham, 2000 Dean
Frances Patton, 2000 Assistant Dean

School Bells will ring for the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women's School of Christian Mission, 5th Annual Children's SCM, and 2nd Annual Teen Women's SCM, Tuesday - Friday, July 18-21, 2000.

This is an excellent education for mission opportunity, a thumb's up experience for boys and girls age 7-13 years old and a great membership introduction and mission orientation for teen women age 14-18.

The 2000 studies are:

Spiritual Growth:	**Paul's Letters to the Corinthians**
General Issue:	**God's People in an Urban Culture**
Geographical:	**Children of Africa**

The Children's SCM has a continuing reputation around Louisiana Conference as a source of summer Christian education for mission, fun and friends. The First Ever Teen Women's SCM was a wonderful introduction to the world of mission and to membership opportunities for young women in UMW. First Ever Teen Women's SCM attendees are spreading the word and looking forward to the 2nd Annual Teen Women's SCM.

Come, enjoy four days at the beautiful Louisiana Conference Retreat Center. Leave ready to do God's mission.

Scholarships will be available. More detailed information will appear in the Louisiana Methodist Review, the Conference UMW Newsletter and District UMW Newsletters.

D.E.L.T. Rated A Success

The evaluations are in, and we can call our 1999 District Elected Leadership Training a wonderful success. Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women are Leadership Ready for the year 2000. If you haven't found it already, the message from the D.E.L.T. flyer is: "Let's make mission work for Women, Children, and Youth." Many thanks for attending and for your leadership and work in and for United Methodist Women.

Rita M. Parham, Chairman
Brenda Canty, Co-Chairman
1999 District Elected Leadership Training

Thank You!
From a Grateful Communications Coordinator
My grateful thanks to all of the members of Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women for the wonderful opportunity given to me to serve you as Conference Communications Coordinator. I will continue in grateful service as an active member of United Methodist Women, Answering Yes!, Here I am, Send Me.

God Bless You!
Rita M. Parham

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Bunkie, LA 71322

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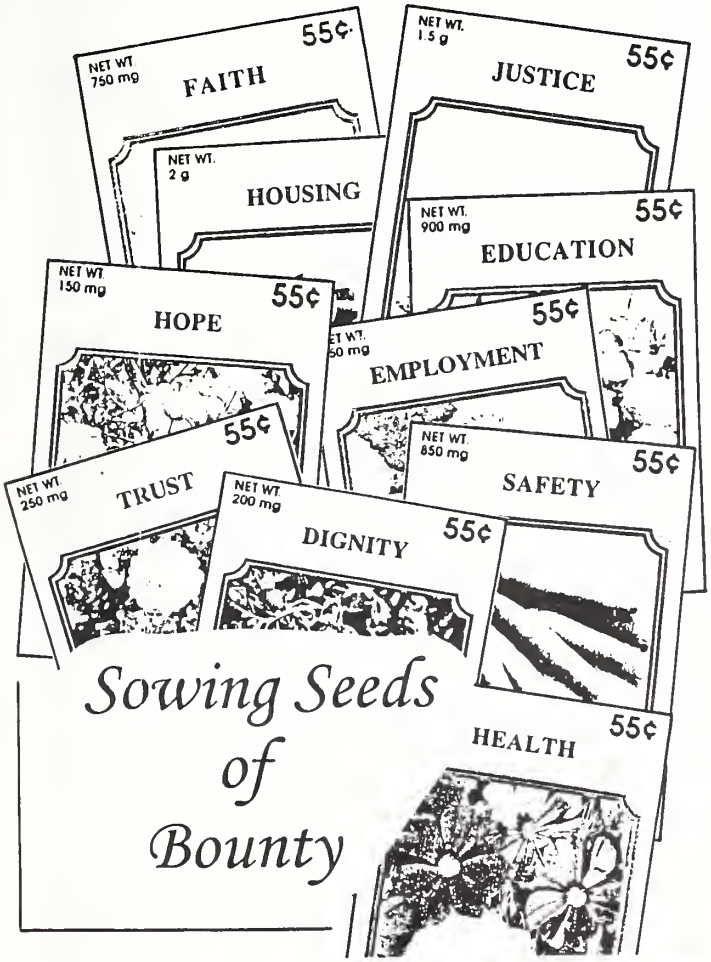
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXIII No. 2 *May 2000*



Sowing Seeds of Bounty

II Corinthians 9:6

Tuesday - Friday, July 18-21, 2000
Louisiana Conference Center
a United Methodist Center for Spiritual Renewal
2350 Methodist Parkway, Woodworth, LA 71485
(318) 449-4500

In Paul's time, Corinth was a young port city noted as a center for vice. Corinth had a large transient population, social, cultural, and religious mixture of people. Paul's letters to the Corinthians addressed the church's struggle and tried to guide the fledgling Christian community in Corinth to a stronger faith in the midst of chaos.

The diverse nations of the continent of Africa have been plagued with conflicts for many years resulting in chaos and hardship that threaten peace and ignore God's promise of abundant life. The Bishops of the United Methodist Church have issued an appeal of "Hope for the Children of Africa" to members of The United Methodist Church to join in providing relief so the children of Africa might have hope and abundant life.

Life-destroying forces exist no matter where we live on this planet. Christians living in today's cities face some of the same conditions faced by the Christians in Corinth in Paul's day. Racism, xenophobia, violence, self-destructive behaviors, global economic and political decisions impact daily lives in cities. Jesus did not shrink from confronting political, economic and religious issues of his day. Jesus revealed God's love for all his children. He showed equal concern for the rich young ruler and the poor widow.

Paul wrote to the struggling church in Corinth, "the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." *[II Corinthians 9:6 NRSV]* Through his letters, Paul reminds us that God provides us with all we need to sow seeds that yield a bountiful harvest. It is our job to sow the seeds of bounty.

Rita M. Parham, 2000 Dean and Frances Patton, 2000 Assistant Dean are delighted to welcome you to attend the first School of Christian Mission to begin the new millennium in mission education for Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women.

Rita Parham
Dean

Frances Patton
Assistant Dean

Do you dread the arrival of the summer time BLAHS? The BLAHS generally arrive around the middle of July. You know the symptoms: a tired irritable feeling, boredom, you frown more than you smile, your temper has a very short fuse, and your spirit has hit rock bottom. You need a change, something that is exciting and challenging.

I have the solution of how to avoid the summer time BLAHS! Plan to attend the Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission which will be held at the Louisiana Conference Center. The dates are July 18-21, 2000, and the theme is "Sowing Seeds of Bounty." All the information about School of Christian Mission is in this NEWSLETTER. Fill out the registration form and mail it in.

Come and enjoy the natural beauty of God's creation -- that alone will lift your spirit. The classes will be informative and challenging. Everyone will smile at you and you won't have time to frown. You will greet old friends and meet new friends. The food is good and the fellowship is super.

Give yourself a break from the summer time BLAHS and join us at School of Christian Mission on July 18th. Hope to see you there!

Elouise Sanders, Conference President

The Learning Center District Sponsored Displays Will Highlight 2000-2001 Studies

The Learning Center will be located along the hallway of the main lodge. A table for each district will be provided. Please bring extension cords, table covering and backdrops as needed. Displays are to be ready for viewing by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday July 18, 2000 and taken down no later than 6:00 p.m., Thursday, July 20, 2000.

Learning Center Topics include:

Paul's Letters to the Corinthians

1. **Lake Charles District** - Snail Mail, E-Mail, Postcards, Letters and Memos: Modern Communication of the Gospel

2. **Alexandria District** - Modern Communication, Technology, and Teaching the Word - Resources on the World Wide Web

3. **Ruston District** - The Inclusive Gospel - Old Traditions Meet New Gospel to Reach Children and Youth

Children of Africa

4. **North Shore District** - Folklore, Art, Dance and Song: Sharing Culture

5. **Monroe District** - Children and Youth: Discovering Our Brothers and Sisters

6. **Acadiana District** - Postcards from Africa: Hope for the Children of Africa

God's People in an Urban Culture

7. **Shreveport District** - The Village, The City, The Farm - Women, Children and Youth

8. **New Orleans** - Main Street U.S.A.: Restoration & Renaissance, Downtown Development; Historic Register, and Urban Renewal

9. **Baton Rouge District** - Urban Lifestyles Life in the City/Life in the Ghetto

Program Resources

Service Center
General Board of Global Ministries
The United Methodist Church
7820 Reading Road, Caller No. 1800
Cincinnati, OH 45222-1800
1-800-305-9857; 1-513-761-3722;
Fax 1-513-761-2100, Ext. 116 Customer Service

Paul's Letters to the Corinthians

Conflict and Community in the Corinthian Church (English) Stock # 2869 $4.50

Children of Africa

Children of Africa: Restoring the Village (English) Includes Leader's Guide Stock # 2860 $6.95

Map 'n Facts: Children of Africa Stock #2875 $8.95
Hope for Children of Africa - Video Stock #2905 $29.95
Special Issue Response Magazine - May, 2000 Stock #2876 $1.50
Special Issue New World Outlook - May/June, 2000 Stock #2884 $3.00

God's People in an Urban Culture

Leader's Guide to God's People in an Urban Culture Stock #2886 $6.50
Journey of the Spirit: God's People in an Urban Culture - Video Stock #2890 $29.95
Special Issue Response Magazine - April, 2000 Stock # 2887 $1.50
Special Issue Response Magazine - June, 2000 "God's People in Rural Society" Stock # 2908 $1.50
Special Issue New World Outlook - Jan/Feb, 200 Stock #2889 $3.00

Children's SCM - Children of Africa

Under the Baobah Tree: Children of Africa (Children's Magazine) Stock #2872 $4e / 10 or more $3.20
Teacher's Guide Under the Baobah Tree: Children of Africa Stock #2873 $5.95
African Tales - Video Stock #2081 $29.95

Teen Women's SCM - Paul's Letters to an Urban Congregation

Streetwise in Corinth: Paul's Letters to an Urban Congregations Stock #2874 $3.50

Music

Africa Praise I Songbook Stock #2783 $5.95
Africa Praise 1 Cassette Stock # 2564 $8.95
Africa Praise 1 CD Stock #2563 $12.95

SCHEDULE FOR 2000 SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Tuesday

9:00 a.m. to Noon	Arrival/Registration
11:00 - 11:45	First Timers; Learning Center
	12 Noon LUNCH
1:15 - 2:15	Gathering
2:30 - 3:30	Class - Corinthians
3:45 - 4:45	Class
5:00 - 5:45	Choir Practice
	6:00 p.m. DINNER
7:15 - 8:30	UMW Focus

Wednesday

8:15 - 8:45	Worship & Gathering
9:00 - 11:00	Class
11:00 - 12:00	Learning Center; Choir Practice
	12 Noon LUNCH
1:15 - 3:15	Class - Corinthians
3:15 - 4:00	Quiet Time
4:00 - 6:00	Class
	6:00 p.m. DINNER
7:30 till	Celebration/Fellowship

Thursday

8:15 - 8:45	Worship & Gathering
9:00 - 11:00	Class - Corinthians
11:00 - 12:00	Learning Center Workshop for those planning to lead studies
	12 Noon LUNCH
1:15 - 3:15	Class
3:15 - 4:00	Quiet Time, Choir Practice
4:00 - 6:00	Class - Corinthians
	6:00 p.m. DINNER
7:15 - 8:30	Children/Youth
8:30 - 9:00	Women's Div. Update

Friday

8:00 - 9:15	Class
9:30 - 10:30	Class - Corinthians
10:45	Closing Worship & Communion

Morning Praise: 6:45 a.m.; Breakfast 7:00

DIRECTIONS:

FROM BATON ROUGE, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles)

FROM NEW ORLEANS, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles)

FROM SHREVEPORT, take I-49 South through Alexandria., Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)

Registration and Housing Information

Housing at Conference Center will be for adults and will be filled at a first-come first-served basis. All rooms have two double beds and bath. Housing for the children, youth and the adults accompanying them will be at Tall Timbers. Those rooms have a queen sized bed and trundle bed that makes into two twin beds. A shuttle will be provided for transportation to the Conference Center. There are a limited number of first floor accommodations at both locations. Please note special needs on registration form. Cost is based on number of persons per room and includes meals and registration. There must be at least one adult in the room with children or youth. The cost for adults/youth is as follows:

4 to a room	$110.00 per person
3 to a room	$130.00 per person
2 to a room	$155.00 per person

The cost for each child is half the adult/youth cost.

Please register together if at all possible. If at the last minute, one or more persons in a group are unable to attend, others in that room must pay the difference in room rates.

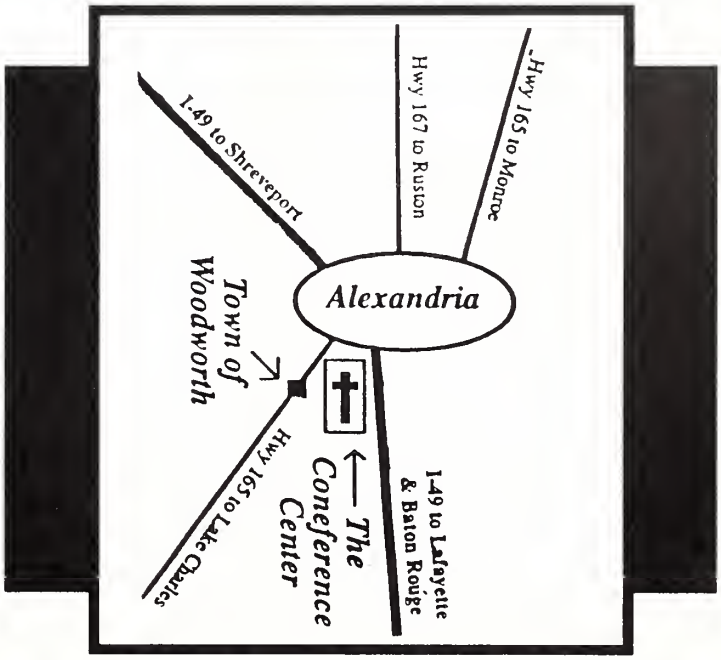
Anyone not a member of the School Committee or Conference Officer, who comes early due to car pool shall pay $15 per night for room and pay extra meals as you go through the serving line.

Because of the cafeteria style arrangements for preparing and serving food, special diets are not available. Care will be taken to try and provide low fat, low sodium items at meals.

Those participants not staying at the Conference Center are required to register and pay the $15 registration fee for insurance coverage from the time you leave your home, throughout your stay, to your return home. Meals will be available at a rate of $20 per day.

OFFERING - The offering taken at the School of Mission will be undesignated.

Children & Youth - Bring swim suit, beach towel and sun screen.



Spiritual Growth: Paul's Letters to the Corinthians

Dr. Rena M. Yocom
Dr. Yocom is a deacon, currently serving as Executive Director, Conference Mission and Ministries for the Louisiana Area of the United Methodist Church.

Rena is vice-president, World Association for Christian Communication, editor of the mission study New Wineskins: Challenge of Mission in the 21st Century, co-editor Church in the Movement of the Spirit, contributing author Women and Church. She co-authored and co-taught the Journeys through Scripture series, formed and led Especially for Women, a Bible study covenant group. She received accolades for planning and coordinating two Global Gatherings.

She is a graduate of St. Paul School of Theology, and San Francisco Theological Seminary, Doctor of Ministry. She has led workshops internationally and in 1994 received the St. Paul School of Theology Graduate Award, honoring her commitment to inclusive evangelism. She and her husband, Larry, have two children and one grandson.

Barbara Murray
Barbara is the daughter of a retired United Methodist minister and is a Diaconal Minister presently working as the New Orleans District Missioner. She is a Cum Laude graduate of Dillard University with a B.S., music education; M.E., music Education and secondary education Northeast Louisiana University. As a recipient of a United Methodist Ministries in Higher Education summer grant, she studied at Cairo, Egypt. A.R.E. Her Diaconal training was completed at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methdoist University, Dallas, TX.

Geographical: Children of Africa

Rev. Clifton Conrad, Sr.
Rev. Conrad is a native of Baton Rouge, LA. He is a graduate of University Southwestern Louisiana, B.S., Education, M.E., Guidance and Counseling, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Ministry Certification. He is the pastor of Calvary UMC, Thibodaux, LA, and a Counselor Coordinator, Vocational Technical School, Lafayette Parish.

He is past president, Acadiana District United Methodist Men, Vice President, National Fellowship, Associates and Local Pastors, Louisiana Conference, Religion and Race representative for the Acadiana District Ministry Team, and Vice President, Membership, Phi Delta Kappa Educational Fraternity.

He and his wife, Kathleen, have two children, Clifton and Chantel.

Rachel Bachenberg
Rachel has been an active United Methodist Woman for many years serving as a District officer, Dean and Assistant Dean, Missouri West School of Christian Mission, Retreat and Study Leader.

She has enjoyed attending National Assembly since 1982, the 1991 National Seminar, the 1995 U.N. Forum on Women, serves as a volunteer consultant, UMW Membership Campaign, and is President of her UMW unit. She was a US-2 person in mission serving at Epworth Village in York, Nebraska from 1981-83.

Rachel is a Registered Nurse, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Kansas City, Missouri. She collects textiles and international clothing, loves to read, travel, and in 1998 traveled to Indonesia with the General Board of Global Ministries Culture and Mission Tour. Her favorite place to shop is the Broadway UMC Bazaar (the best church bazaar in the world). She can be bribed with chocolate and even though her sister (the dietitian in the family) does not agree with her, she KNOWS that it is one of the major food groups!!

Dr. Christie Onwujuba-Dike
Dr. Christie Onwujuba-Dike is Assistant Professor, School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Southern University, Baton Rouge, teaching in the area of Finance and Statistics.

She is a graduate of the Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu, Nigeria, Kentucky State, University of North Texas, and University of Texas, Dallas, earning the MBA Finance, MPA, and Pd.D. degrees and is a Certified Government Financial Management Officer.

She co-chairs University-Baton Rouge Global Mission Committee, and planned the Baton Rouge area visitation, Bishop Dabale, UMC Nigeria, organized African Cultural Sunday, and International Youth and Children Cultural Sunday.

The Dike family served as liturgist, 1999 Louisiana Annual Conference and inspired fund raising for the Children of Africa. She is a certified Disciple Bible Student.

She and her husband, Roy Dike, are the parents of Princess and Roy Jr.

General Issue: God's People in an Urban Culture

Dalila Cruz

Dalila is from San Antonio, Texas and has been active in United Methodist Women related activities since the age of fifteen. Mrs. Cruz majored in music at Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas and has traveled extensively throughout the world. She has one daughter and one granddaughter.

She is a member of the Rio Grande Conference, and has been active in choral direction and at present is the choir director at her local church. She served as song leader for several Schools of Christian Mission, N.O.T.E. - New Officers Training Event (now L.T.E. - Leadership Training Event). She has held offices in her local unit and Conference, serving presently as Conference United Methodist Women secretary and secretary for the Rio Grande Annual Conference. She was employed by Women's Division as Executive Secretary for Leadership Development, and has held positions with the General Commission on Religion and Race, General Council on Ministries, and MARCHA - United Methodist Hispanic Caucus ("Methodists Associated to Represent Hispanic American Concerns" - "Metodistas Associados Representando la Causa de Hispanos Americanos").

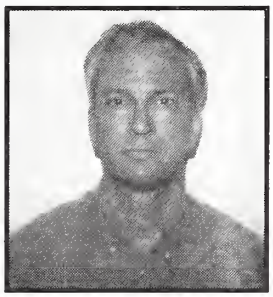
Rev. Gregor Dike

Rev. Gregor Dike is a native of New York and Executive Director, St. Mark's Community Center, New Orleans, LA. He is a graduate of Syracuse University, B.S., Electrical Engineering; University of Alaska, M.S. Mathematics; Colgate Rochester Divinity School, M.Div., and United Theological Seminary, D. Min.

He has worked as a Research Engineer for Syracuse Research Corporation and served appointments in Central New York and North Central Conferences, and current position, July 1995.

He has initiated St. Mark's Community Center Jazz Project, Adult Literacy, The Street Academy and Charter School, After School Computer Art programs, Treme Tool Lending Library, Minor Home Repair Program, the Treme Corner Cafe', The Treme Garden Market, The Cypress Furniture Manufacturing Project, Makin' Good in the Hood, and the Justice Department Mentoring Program.

Rev. Dike is the father of four children: Stacy, Casie, Ezra, and Dara.



Rev. James F. Haynes

Rev. Haynes was educated at Dillard University, New Orleans, LA and Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, GA. He is an Ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and pastor of St. Mark United Methodist Church, Baton Rouge.

His Louisiana Conference activities include member, Commission on Religion and Race, Conference Board of Trustees, Baton Rouge District Inclusivity Team, and the Episcopacy Committee. Rev. Haynes serves his community through volunteer work with the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, East Baton Rouge Parish V.I.P. - Volunteers in Public School, and further with the organizations Frontiers International, N.A.A.C.P., Louisiana Florist Association, and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Inc. His hobbies include reading, golf, and collecting antiques. Rev. Haynes is married to Mildred Briggs Haynes and is the father of one son, Jerel Haynes.

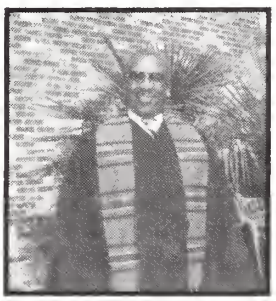
Betty A. Keyes

Betty Keyes has been a United Methodist Woman more than forty years, serving as a District and Conference officer, presently Conference Committee on Nominations, and local unit secretary.

She has taught in district and conference schools of Christian Mission, and retreats. An active volunteer, Betty and her daughter Judi Grona, led "Listening Skills" workshops throughout the South West Texas Conference . Interest in the elderly has led her to work as an AACog Ombudsman, facilitator of "As Parents Grow Older" seminars, RSVP, the Rape Advocacy Program, is an adult church school teacher, and piano and violin teacher with fifty years experience.

Betty attended Westmoreland and Incarnate Word Colleges, San Antonio, and claims a degree in "UMW" based on educational opportunities.

Betty is a widow with a blended family of five children, eighteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her hobbies are people, family, music, church, teaching, and travel.



Children's Study Leaders

The children will study Children of Africa including African history, culture, art, literature, and music, and a variety of activities to show the church working to improve life for children living in the midst of war and poverty.

The study leaders are:
Rev. Rodney D. & Mrs. Darlene Wooten.

Darlene M. Wooten
Darlene is a native of Los Angeles, CA and a "P.K. - Preacher's Kid." She is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University, M.A., Counseling Psychology, University of Southern California, B.A., Psychology.

She has been employed as a social worker, Children's Services, Los Angeles; counselor, social worker, and teacher, Tennessee; Special Education Teacher, Behavior Disorder children, Lafayette, LA. She is a Licensed Marital & Family Therapist, private practice.

Darlene is an active member of United Methodist Women, The Praise Team, The Inspirational Choir, and is an Adult Class Sunday School Teacher. She enjoys bowling, cooking, traveling, and stepaerobics.

Rev. Rodney Duane Wooten
Rev. Rodney D. Wooten is a native of Los Angeles, CA and former professional basketball player with the European Basketball Association.

He attended Texas Southern University, graduate of Lane College, Jackson, TN, B.S., and Memphis Theological Seminary, Master of Arts in Religion, Master of Divinity degrees. While attending the seminary, he served as student body president.

He is a founding member and servant of the non-profit Minister's Empowerment Association, for church empowerment of voiceless citizens; Project SCOPE, a task force that works with parents and students in the school system; and Upward Basketball, a Christian Basketball League for youth.

Rev. and Mrs. Wooten have received recognition as community leaders. Both were awarded the Honorary Doctorate, Religious Humanities. He is the pastor of Immanuel UMC, Lafayette, LA, she is church Administrative Assistant. They are the parents of one son, Monterio Wooten

School Committee

Elouise Sanders, President, Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
..... Officer Update

Harriette Elrod, Conference Vice President
..... Morning Praise

Carolyn Colvin, Conference Secretary
..... Officer Update

Evelyn Evans, Conference Treasurer
..... Registration and Housing

Lou Medlock, Conference Spiritual Growth
..... Worship Center

Ethel Lilly, Conference Social Action
..... Officer Update

Brenda Canty, Conference Membership Nurture & Outreach, Assistant Dean, West Gulf Regional SCM
..... Officer Update

Shirley Jacocks, Conference Secretary of Program Resources
..... Literature Display and Sale

Angelique White, Communications Coordinator
..... Coordinate SCM Nursing Duties
..... Learning Center
..... Fun Night Coordinator

Nancy Carruth, Editor, LA Conference U.M.W. Newsletter
..... SCM Issue UMW Newsletter

Muriel Miller
..... Area Arrangments and Hospitality

Other Faculty Members Include:

Fannie Reddix, Audio Visual Resource Coordinator

Annette Fortuna, Song Leader

Teen Women's Study Leaders

The Teen Women will do a combined study entitled *Streetwise in Corinth: Paul's Letters to an Urban Congregation.* Study highlights include a look at the ancient cities of Jerusalem, Rome, and Corinth to raise issues of urban life and faith and see parallels for our time. The Teen Women's study team will be:

Kathleen Conrad
Kathleen was born in Geneva, New York and attended Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO. She is married to Rev. Clifton C. Conrad, Sr., and is employed as a receptionist for Acadiana Otolaryngology Group in Lafayette, LA.

Kathleen is a member of Calvary UMC, coordinator of "Little Women" teen U.M.W. circle, member church choir, and certified lay speaker. She has been local unit treasurer and secretary.

She is a member of the Acadiana District Inclusivity Team, Chair Louisiana Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women, is completing service, Additional Member, South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group, and is a Reading Program evaluator. Kathleen enjoys sewing, cooking, traveling, writing poetry, reading and photography.

Mary C. Koerner
Mary Koerner has been a member of UMW for fourteen years. In that time she has served as Circle president and local unit mission coordinator for Spiritual Growth. Mary currently serves as the Shreveport district mission coordinator for Spiritual Growth, is a fourth grade Sunday School teacher, and is employed as a special education child specific aide, Shreveport School System. During 1999 Mary served as an assistant Teen Women's SCM leader and later traveled to Nashville, TN to serve as a Louisiana Conference UMW Representative at the National Seminar.

Mary and her husband, Paul, are the parents of two children.

Lana P. Lathan
Lana is a native of Baton Rouge, six generation family and life-long member of Wesley-Baton Rouge UMC.

At Wesley she is a member of the music department, musician, and serves on the Worship committee, Trustee Board, and Administrative Council. Lana is a member of Wesley's local unit of UMW serving as mission coordinator for Spiritual Growth, and is the President of Baton Rouge District UMW. She began work on the district level as Secretary of Program Resources and coordinated the district's first Reading Tea.

A Registered Nurse, Lana is currently a case manager in the health insurance industry.

Lana and her husband, Jim Lathan, are the parents of Anthony James Lathan.

Fun Night

New and Unique Mission Fun!
Tuesday - Friday, July 18-21, 2000

The 2000 Fun Night will be Wednesday, July 19, 2000. Fun Night will be coordinated by Angelique White, Louisiana Conference U.M.W. Communications Coordinator. Look forward to a unique and wonderful evening.

2000 School Sets New Start and End Dates

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will host School of Christian Mission at the
Louisiana Conference Retreat Center
2350 Methodist Parkway
P. O. Box 378
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485
(318) 449-4500

The Conference Center is located South of I-49 (Exit 73) - South of LA 165, 8 minutes south of Alexandria (Coulee Crossing Road).

In an effort to continue using the Conference Retreat Center facilities, the new start and end dates for the 2000 school will be:

Tuesday - Friday,
July 18-21, 2000

Dameron Alumni Association

Are you a past recipient of the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship? Founded in 1981, this scholarship has enabled several students to attend the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women School of Christian Mission.

All good schools deserve a great Alumni Association to encourage its continued success.

We would love to recognize our Alums. Please send your name, church, and the year that you received your scholarship to:

Brenda Canty, Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach
3509 North 38th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Plese note: The Dameron Alumni Association is not to be confused with this year's Dameron Scholarship. The deadline for scholarship applications expired March 31, 2000.

Studies and Resources Available on the Internet

The General Board of Global Ministries Internet Home Page has wonderful resources for the 2000-2001 studies, worship, and mission communication. Internet Resources are listed for your "Web Surfing" pleasure.

General Board of Global Ministries Home Page

http://gbgm-umc.org/missionstudies/

Pat Cobb

Several conference officers and members of the Louisiana Conference U.M.W. attended the South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The theme was "Leading the Way in God's Mission."

At the meeting, Pat Cobb was elected to the Core Planning Group. Pat is a former Conference President and also served as Dean of the Conference School of Christian Missions and Conference Secretary of Membership. She is a member of St. Luke's U.M.C. in New Orleans where she is active in worship and music. She is also active in volunteer work at St. Mark's Community Center.

Pat is married to Earl Cobb. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

2000 Mission Education Events

Saturday, August 5, 2000
Baton Rouge District
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Lutcher Chapel UMC, 2290 N. Exchange Alley, Lutcher
Host Unit President: Elexia Henderson;
Doris Carter, Dean; Edna Hickman, Assistant Dean

New Orleans District
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Rayne Memorial UMC, 3900 St. Charles, New Orleans
Host Unit President: Mrs. Mary Jane Meyers;
Meribel M. Molina, Dean; Sybil Boseman, Assistant Dean

Saturday, August 12, 2000
Monroe District
9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Epps UMC, 400 Old Delhi Road, Epps
Host President: Waldene Walpole;
Sandy DeCelle, Dean

Ruston District
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Farmerville UMC, 300 Anthony, Farmerville
Host Unit President: Juanita Cook;
Barbara Causey, Dean; Pat Pace, Asst. Dean

Saturday, August 19, 2000
North Shore District
9 a.m. - 12 Noon
St. Mary's Chapel UMC, Angie, LA
Host Unit President: Paulette Pittmann;
Fran Thigpen, Dean; Dorothy Young, Asst. Dean

Saturday, August 26, 2000
Acadiana District
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Trinity UMC, 101 Main Street/Hwy. 90, Baldwin
Dean: Idella Stevenson

Shreveport District
9: a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Broadmoor UMC, Shreveport
Mary Margaret Barr, Host Unit President;
Tommie Pepper, Dean

Sunday, August 27, 2000
Lake Charles District
2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Squires UMC, Hwy. 171 North, Ragley
Fran Hendricks, Host Unit President;
Mary A. Monk, Dean; Jeroldean Dommert, Asst. Dean

Saturday, October 14, 2000
Alexandria District
1:00 p.m. - 3 p.m.
First - Pineville UMC, 2550 Monroe Hwy,, Pineville
Kathy Shea, Host Unit President
Fern Christiansen, Dean; Dallene Perkins, Assistant Dean

Send Registration & Housing Form to:

Evelyn Evans

100 St. Clair • Natchitoches, LA 71457

BY JULY 1ST

Make Check Payable to:

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

ADULT REGISTRATION

School of Christian Mission

July 18 - 21, 2000

Louisiana Conference Center

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ Zip:_____

Phone No. ( )_____

Church:_____District:_____

Check all that apply:

[ ]First Timer

[ ]Need first floor room

[ ]Rooming with child

[ ]Staying at home

[ ]Executive Committee

[ ]District Officer

[ ]Arriving Monday [ ]Tuesday

Roommates preferred _____

_____

_____

Studies: Choose one of the following:

[ ]Children of Africa

[ ]God's People in an Urban Culture

Everyone participates in the study:

Paul's Letters to the Corinthians

CHILDREN'S REGISTRATION

Name:_____

Sex:_____ Age:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ Zip:_____

Phone No. ( )_____

Church:_____District:_____

Name of Adult rooming with you:

_____

*Children must be 7 to 12 years old

Children participate in study: Children of Africa

YOUTH REGISTRATION

Name:_____

Age:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ Zip:_____

Phone No. ( )_____

Church:_____District:_____

Name of Adult rooming with you:

_____

*Youth must be 13 to 17 years old

All Youth participate in the study:

Streetwise in Corinth: Paul's Letters to an Urban Congregation

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

2000

June 4 - 7	Louisiana Annual Conference Centenary College
June 16 - 20	West Gulf Regional School Abilene, Texas
July 17	Committee Meetings Conference Center
July 18 - 21	Conference School of Christian Mission Conference Center Rita Parham, Dean Frances Patton, Assistant Dean
September 14	Conference Executive Committee
September 15 - 16	UMW Conference Annual Meeting FUMC, Lake Charles
October	District Annual Meetings
October 21	DELT Conference Center Rita Parham, Chairperson Muriel Miller, Assistant Chair
November	School Committee, Program Committee Leadership Development Event, St. Louis

2001

January	Task Force for Annual Meeting
January 28	UMW Sunday
February 23 - 24	Mid-Year Executive Committee Mtg. Conference Center
April 6 - 8	Conference Retreat Louisiana Conference Center Maxie Garrett, Chairperson Kathleen Conrad, Assistant Chair
April 15	Easter

2000 DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	November 4	Baldwin
Alexandria	October 14	Pineville, FUMC
Baton Rouge	October 28	Camphor UMC Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	November 4	Westlake UMC
Monroe	October 7	Kilbourne
New Orleans	October 28	Cornerstone New Orleans
North Shore	November 4	FUMC Ponchatoula
Ruston	October 28	FUMC Haynesville
Shreveport	October 15	Christ UMC Shreveport

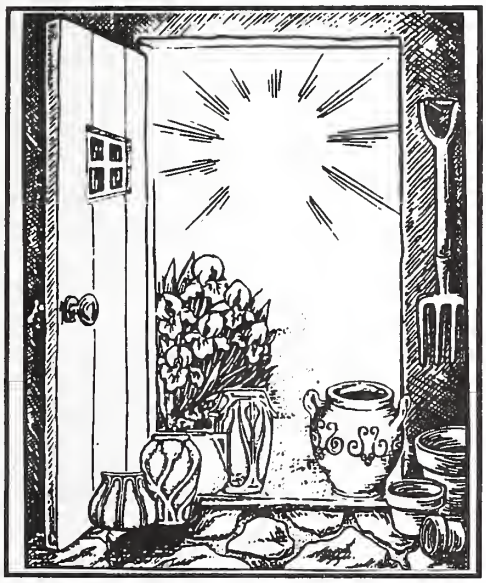
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Mrs. Nancy M. Carruth
P. O. Box 267
Bunkie, LA 71322

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bunkie, LA
Permit No. 82

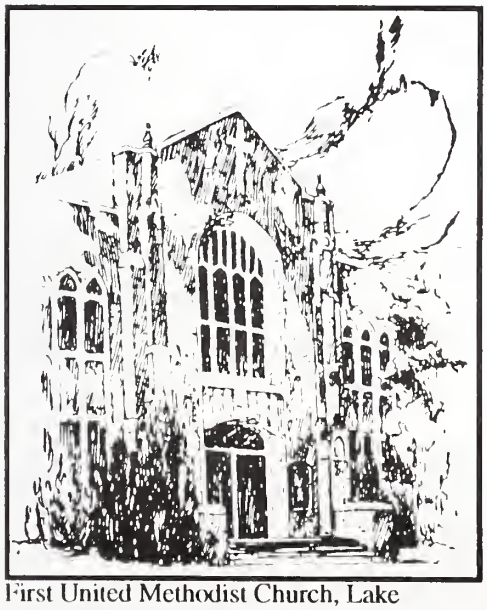
Magale Library
Centenary College
P.O.Box 4188
Shreveport, La. 71104

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXIII *No. 3* *August 2000*



Let God's Light Shine from Earthen Vessels



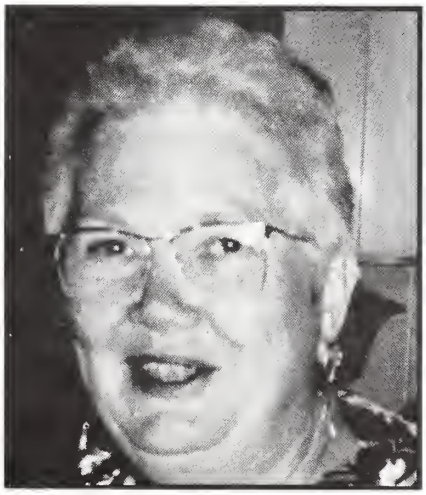
First United Methodist Church, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women will convene for the 27th Annual Meeting in Lake Charles, LA at First United Methodist Church on Friday, September 15, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. The gathering will enjoy inspirational music and messages and will hear reports of progress made and challenges to be met. Our theme is "Let God's Light Shine from Earthen Vessels," based on scripture from II Corinthians 4:6-7. As we move onward into the 21st C, we carry forward the work of all those who went before us, becoming vessels ourselves and using new ways to tell the eternal message of good news.

Elouise Sanders, Conference President, will preside over the meeting. Members and guests will be welcomed by host pastor, Doug deGraffenried; Dr. Douglas Ezell, Lake Charles District Superintendent; and the entire Lake Charles District United Methodist Women. Jeri Dommert, President of LC District UMW is chairperson for the event, assisted by co-chair Joyce Hazel. Tammie Mayo is in charge of local arrangements.

We celebrate our guest speaker, Dr. Dana Robert, Professor of World Mission at Boston University School of Theology. She is a Louisiana native and was baptized at First Church. Her work and her scholarship are of national and international stature; we greatly anticipate her being with us.

A banquet with a full program has been planned for this year. It will be an evening you won't want to miss.



Jeri Dommert
Chairperson

Joyce Hazel
Co-Chairperson

Call to Annual Meeting

The twenty-seventh Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will be held on September 15-16, 2000, at First United Methodist Church in Lake Charles.

The theme for the meeting is "Let God's Light Shine from Earthen Vessels." We will be challenged to let God's light shine through his human earthen vessels; to lighten the darkest corners of the earth.

Part of the business of Annual Meeting is the election of leadership. In accordance with the Conference Standing Rules, the slate of nominees is listed in this publication. Voting membership is composed of the following: members of the Conference Executive Committee, District Elected Leaders, the spouse of the resident Bishop, President of all predecessor organizations and delegates from local units. Local units are represented on the basis of one delegate for each one hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof provided each unit, regardless of size, shall be entitled at least one delegate. Membership of each local unit is determined according to the current Annual Report and Directory, unless corrections are given to the conference president sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting.

Elouise Sanders
Conference President

Facts and Focus - Annual Meeting

The church is located at the corner of Broad and Kirkman Streets. The address is 812 Kirkman, but the church actually faces Broad. The church telephone number is 337-436-6656 and the fax number is 337-436-6658. Parking will be limited on the lots adjacent to the rear of the church on Friday afternoon because of the church's pre-school, so car-pools will be appreciated. The UMM of the church will be on hand to direct you to parking areas.

Please fill out the registration form in this newsletter and send all information to Evelyn Evans. Also each person who registers, including all officers, must pay the $7.50 registration fee. This includes the insurance that covers you from the time you leave home, throughout the meeting, and your return home. Also please indicate which meals you plan to eat at the conference. This will help in planning food services. Remember, there will be a banquet on Friday evening and you must pre-register for that also. The cost is $15.00 per person, sent in to Evelyn with your registration. If you need nursery facilities, please so indicate.

All motels except Inn on the Bayou offer full breakfast buffets to their guests. Therefore, the breakfast served at the church will be Continental style consisting of coffee, juice, and pastries. Please plan accordingly. A sandwich lunch will be available in Paxton Hall on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on Saturday after the closing of the communion service.

A post-executive committee meeting will be held on the second floor where lunch for the retiring officers, incoming officers, and all members of the committee will be served.

Devotion Room
Please plan to spend a few moments in quiet meditation in the marvelous chapel of First Church. Materials will be available to guide your devotion, should you wish to use them. You are invited to just 'look in' if that is all you have time for. Such beauty must be appreciated.

Mission Offering
On Saturday morning an offering to be given to undesignated mission will be taken. Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the 'Mission Candle' and 'One Second of Your Time' as you honor loved ones. These help increase our Gift to Mission and keep the Mission Candle burning as long as possible.

Registration
Registration will begin in the Family Life Center at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 15. We hope to see many, many smiling faces. First Church and Lake Charles District welcome you!

For Your Convenience
Stations will be located at several points where coffee, ice water, and perhaps a 'nibble' will be available. All restrooms will be clearly marked; pages will be numerous; and doors will have labels on them to identify areas. In the program will be a guide to the floor plan of the church. We want you to be at home.

Program
"Let God's Light Shine from Earthen Vessels"
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:6-7
Theme Hymn: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Friday Afternoon **1:00 p.m.**
Musical Prelude
Processional of Conference Officers and District Presidents
Invocation — Virginia Cutrer
Convening of 27th Annual Meeting — Elouise Sanders
Affirmation of Purpose — Hilda Davis
Welcome
Hymn: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" (verses 1 and 2)
Visitor Recognition — Elouise Sanders
Presentation of Program — Jeri Dommert and Joyce Hazel
Lighting of Mission Candle — Pat Davis and Iris Vinson
Hymn: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" (verses 3 and 4)
Meditation — Rev. Betty Northern
Special Music

Break

Business Session
Mission Team Reports
Election of Officers
Greetings and Reports
- Church Women United
- Project Leaders

Service for Retiring Officers — Nell Hayes

Close of Afternoon Session

Note: You are free to return to your homes or lodgings at the close of the afternoon session. The Conference will reconvene at 6:45 p.m. Friday Evening at *Treasures of Marilyn*, a banquet facility at 3510 5th Avenue, Lake Charles. Driving directions for getting to the banquet will be distributed by pages at each lodging facility in addition to the limited map shown in this newsletter. Pages will greet incoming guests and will also provide directions to the church.

Banquet Program
Greetings — Joyce Hazel, Mistress of Ceremonies
Musical Program
Prayer of Blessing — Mary Parker
Dinner
Special Music
Introduction of Dr. Lueg — Joyce Hazel
Introduction of Dr. Dana Robert — Dr. Carl Lueg
Address — Dr. Dana Robert
Closing Notes

Saturday Morning **8:30 a.m.**
Music — Barbara Leming, Leader
Morning Devotion — Dr. Marvette Thomas
Pledge Service — Evelyn Evans
Offertory Prayer/Offering — Evelyn Evans
Report of Registration — Eleanor Moffett
Special Mission Recognition — Elouise Sanders
Message — Dr. Dana Robert
Installation of Officers — Joyce Hazel
Invitation for Annual Meeting 2001

Break

Special Music
Morning Prayer
Communion Meditation
Holy Communion — Rev. Doug deGraffenried and Dr. Douglas Ezell

Benediction
Postlude

Housing Information

RICHMOND SUITES HOTEL (Headquarters)
(at intersection of I-10 and Hwy. 171 N. or Martin Luther King Hwy. - across from Comfort Inn, I-10 West Exit #33; I-10 East Exit #33)
2600 Moeling Street
337-433-5213 or 1-800-643-2582

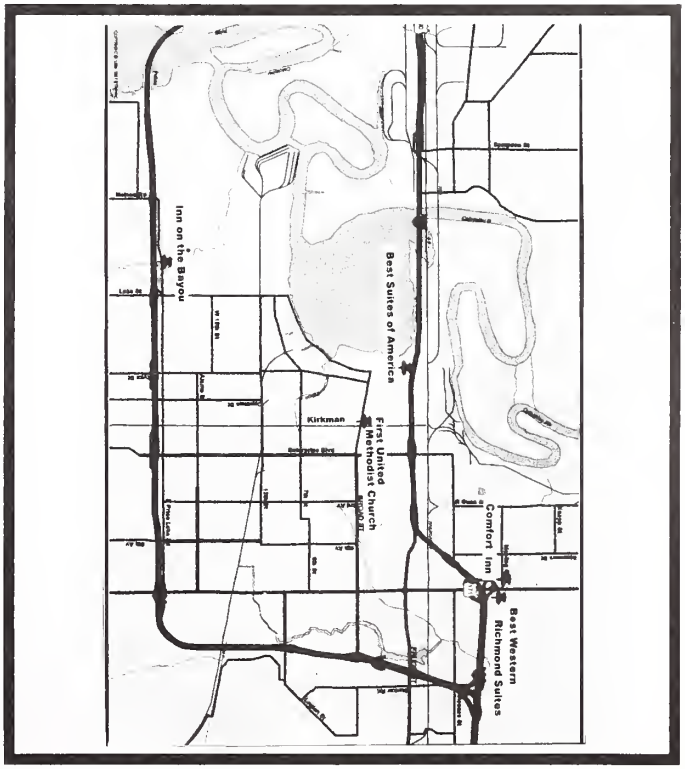
Room Rates	Double, Exec. Queen, & Standard	
	King	$69.00 plus tax
	Exec. King	$74.00 plus tax
	Jr. Suites	$79.00 plus tax
	Deluxe Suites	$89.00 plus tax

COMFORT INN
(at intersection of I-10 and Hwy. 171 N. or Martin Luther King Hwy. - across from Richmond Suites Hotel, I-10 West Exit #33; I-10 East Exit #33)
921 N. Martin Luther King Hwy.
337-491-1000 or 1-800-228-5150
Room Rates — All rooms $62.10 plus tax

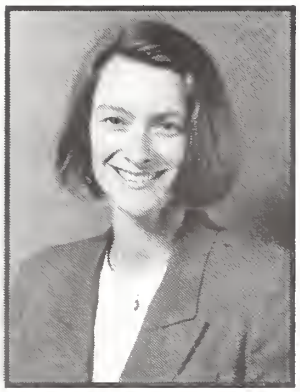
BEST SUITES OF AMERICA
(I-10 West Exit 30A; I-10 East Exit #29)
401 Lakeshore Drive N.
337-439-2444 or 1-800-237-8466
Room Rates — All rooms $89.00 plus tax

INN ON THE BAYOU
(I-210 West Exit #5, right at first light and left at 2nd light; I-210 East Exit #5, left at first light, then left again at 3rd light)
1101 W. Prien Lake Road
337-474-5151 or 1-800-642-2968
Room Rates — All rooms $59.95 plus tax

Hotel reservation deadline is September 1st for each hotel. Please mention "United Methodist Women's Group" when making reservation .Maps will be available at each hotel with directions to the church.



PROGRAM



Dr. Dana Robert comes to us from Boston, Massachusetts where she is Professor of World Mission at the Boston University School of Theology, the oldest United Methodist Seminary. We look forward to her messages with great anticipation. Dr. Robert was a speaker at La. Annual Conference in June of 1999 and is remembered with appreciation by those who heard her. She will have just returned from a summer of work in Zimbabwe and at Oxford University in England when she comes to us.

She is the author of American Women in Missions: A Social History of Their Thought and Practice and is co-author of Christianity: A Social and Cultural History 2nd ed., and of numerous other articles and book chapters. She also wrote Evangelism: The Heart of Mission for the mission-evangelism series of The United Methodist Church.

Through her husband, Professor M. L. Daneel, she has an ongoing relationship with African Independent Churches in Masvingo Province, Zimbabwe. A native of Baton Rouge, she has two sons, Samuel and John. Her grandmother, Mrs. Caroline Spiller, is a member of First United Methodist Church of Lake Charles.

Host pastor at First United Methodist Church of Lake Charles is Rev. Doug deGraffenried. He was born and reared in Decatur, Alabama. He was educated at Samford University and the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has also attended Southern Methodist University and St. Paul's School of Theology. Joining the Louisiana Annual Conference in 1983, he has served as The Associate Minister at Aurora United Methodist Church and has pastored First UMC, Kenner, the Arcadia/Mt. Mariah charge, and Blackwater UMC

For the last six years he has been contributing author to the Higley Sunday School Comenetary.

Dr. Douglas Ezell is the newly appointed District Superintendent of the Lake Charles District. He and his wife Patricia have a son and a daughter. Dr. Ezell received degrees from Louisiana State University, Southwestern Seminary, Texas Women's University and Princeton Theological Seminary. He served as Director of the Family Development Center at Ruston's Methodist Children's Home and was C.E.O. of the New Orleans Methodist Home for Children prior to being appointed District Superintendent.

Bringing the opening mediation will be Rev. Elizabeth Northern. Betty is serving her second year as pastor of FUMC in Oakdale. She is a native of Virginia, a long time resident of Louisiana, and holds a B.A. from Baylor University and an M. of Div. from Perkins School of Theology, S.M.U. Mother of one son, Betty describes herself as a singer of songs, poet and preacher.

PERSONEL

Leading us in the morning devotional Saturday will be Dr. Marvette Thomas, pastor of Jones (Welsh) and Mallalieu (Jennings) Methodist Churches in the Lake Charles District. In addition to her church work, Dr. Thomas is employed as the Director of Academic Assistance and a professor of education at LSU at Eunice. She completed doctoral and post-doctoral work at Vanderbilt and Harvard Universities and is now pursuing the masters of divinity degree at Perkins School of Theology. She is a licensed counseling psychologist and national and state certified counselor.

Dr. Thomas has directed women's studies and sex equity projects for the State of Louisiana and serves as a consultant to the U.S. Dept. of Education.

She and her husband, Allen Jackson, are the parents of two: daughter Dr. Janel Thomas Davis and son, Allen H. Jackson, Jr.; and the grandparents of Courtland P. Jackson.

Barbara Leming will be Music Director for Annual Meeting 2000. Barbara is a member of First United Methodist Church of Lake Charles, a member of the choir, and Vice-President of the local United Methodist Women unit. She is well known in Lake Charles as an accomplished musician, having been a member of Louisiana Choral Foundation and of Masterworks Chorale for the past 20 years.

She taught pre-school in the past which helped prepare her for the ten grandchildren her four children have given her.

Nell Hayes, past president of Lake Charles District and current member of the LA Conference Nominating Committee will lead the service honoring retiring officers. Nell is well known in the conference for her long service to University Church and to United Methodist Women. She and her husband Robert have two children and a grandchild.

Installation of new officers will be conducted by Joyce Hazel, Co-Chairperson for Annual Meeting 2000. Joyce is also well known throughout the conference, having served as president of Lake Charles District and as leader of School of Christian Mission as well as in many other capacities. Joyce and her husband Clarence are also parents and grandparents.

Pictured below are leaders who made this event possible. We thank them with deep gratitude for their untiring efforts and dedication.

Jane Reynolds
Presidnet
1st C. - UMW

Tammie Mayo
Chairperson
Local Arrangements
Committee

The Conference Executive Committee approved the following changes on February 5, 2000. They will be presented at the Annual Meeting for final approval.

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
Standing Rules and Guidelines
Revised 1997

Changes recommended:

Page 3:

FUNDS

#3 (c) reads: "All expense vouchers shall include itemized listing, with receipts of expenses (postage, duplicating, motel, etc.) for which payment is requested."
ADD **Reimbursement for travel will be based on Expense Guidelines. Vouchers shall be approved and signed by Conference President and Secretary.**

Delete #4. The amount paid for travel shall be determined by the Committee on Finance and the Conference President.

Page 3:

After deleting #4; numbers 5, 6, and 7 shall become 4, 5, and 6.

#7 states: "Each district shall be allowed monies for Assembly. Funds are to be held by the Conference treasurer with other accumulating funds and returned to each district at the appropriate time."
CHANGE TO READ - **#6. Each district shall be allowed monies for sending representatives to Assembly. Funds are to be determined by the Committee on Finance, held by the Conference treasurer, and returned to each district at the appropriate time. Representation shall be determined by the District Executive Committee. If no representative from the district attends, funds shall be returned to the Conference treasurer.**

Page 4:

COMMITTEES

#5 (e) states: "Persons elected to the Committee on Nominations shall attend:
1) Nominations NOTE, within the Conference calendar year elected, at Division Expense.
2) Mid-year Executive Committee at Conference expense.
3) School of Christian Mission at Conference expense.

Change to: **1) Leadership Training Event, within the Conference calendar year elected, at Division expense.**

DELETE #5 (e) 3).

Page 6:

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

#2. **DELETE on an annual basis.**
ADD by the Committee on Finance.
This will now read: **A subsidy to be determined by the Committee on Finance shall be paid for all elected leadership of the district organizations of United Methodist Women, including subdistrict chairpersons, who fully participate in the School of Christian Mission.**

#4 - After the above deletion of #5 (e) 3 under Committees, this #4 under School of Christian Mission is changed to read:
All Conference elected leaders, Conference appointed leaders, the District presidents and District treasurers are expected to attend the School of Christian Mission at Conference expense.

Pages 7, 8:

LEADERSHIP

#2 (b) - DELETE, as it is repetitious. 2. (b) to be deleted reads: The treasurer shall conduct the training of the district treasurers at the District Elected Leaders Training, with expenses allowed according to the guidelines approved by the Executive Committee.
After the deletion of 2 (b) 2 (c) shall become 2 (b).

Page 8:

SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITIONS, GIFTS, MEMORIALS

#1 - editorial change: second line, delete **elders**; make it **deacons. When women from the Louisiana Conference are consecrated in the diaconal ministry or when they are ordained deacons in the Annual Conference, they shall be honored with a thirty dollar ($30) gift to missions through the Special Mission Recognition Plan in United Methodist Women.**

ADD #2: Retired missionaries and deaconesses residing within the Conference may attend Annual Meeting and School of Christian Mission at Conference expense, which includes housing and travel according to expense guidelines.

Change remaining sections 2, 3, and 4 to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

Page 9:

NOMINATING PROCEDURES

AMEND #3 - approved by the Annual Meeting September 24, 1999.
DELETE Procedures for nominating delegates and alternates to the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women.
#3 shall read - **Nominees and alternates as directors to the Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, shall be nominated as follows:**

a. **The Conference Committee on Nominations shall be the nominating body.**
b. **Names of Nominees and alternates shall be published in the Conference Newsletter prior to Annual Meeting.**
c. **Nominations shall be presented to the Annual Meeting for election.**
d. **Nominations may be made from the floor of Annual Meeting, with consent of the nominee.**

Standing Rules, page 9 - **#3 now to be #4:**
4. Procedures for nominating delegates and alternates to the jurisdiction quadrennial meeting of United Methodist Women shall be as follows:

a. **The Conference Executive Committee shall be the nominating body.**
b. **Names of Nominees shall be published in the Conference Newsletter prior to Annual Meeting.**
c. **Nominations shall be presented to the Annual Meeting for election.**
d. **Nominations may be made from the floor of the Annual Meeting.**

Respectfully submitted:
Norma S. Winegeart, Chairperson
Standing Rules and Guidelines

October 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 WEEK 1 PRAY WITH ADORATION To Him be the glory... Ephesians 3:14-21	2 O Lord my God, thou are very great... Psalm 104:1-6	3 Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts... Isaiah 6:1-3	4 He (Jesus) is the reflection of God's glory... Hebrews 1:1-4	5 Hallowed be thy name Matthew 6:9	6 ...tell of all his wonderful works... I Choronicles 16:9	7 Rejoice in the Lord always Philippians 4:4
8 WEEK 2 PRAY WITH CONFESSION Search me, O God, and know my heart Psalm 139:23-24	9 Oh, this people have sinned a great sin... Exodus 32:31-32	10 ...confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord. Romans 10:9-11	11 I acknowledged my sin unto thee Psalm 32:1-11	12 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him... I John 4:15	13 God be merciful to me a sinner... Luke 18:13	14 ...as God in Christ has forgiven you Ephesians 4:31-32
15 WEEK 3 PRAY WITH THANKSGIVING I give thanks and praise Daniel 2:23	16 Giving thanks always for all things Ephesians 5:20	17 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving Psalm 100	18 ...then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God. Deuteronomy 8:10	19 Giving thanks unto the Father Colossians 1:12-18	20 Give thanks in all circumstances. I Thessalonians 5:18	21 You will say in that day: I will give thanks Isaiah 12
22 WEEK 4 PRAY WITH SUPPLICATION FOR PEACE He makes wars cease. Psalm 46	23 ...that we may lead a quiet and peaceful life. I Timothy 2:1-2	24 ...live peaceably with all Romans 12:16-21	25 Now may the God of peace... Hebrews 13:20-21	26 Pursue peace with everyone... Hebrews 12:14	27 be at peace with one another... Mark 9:50	28 Guide our feet in the way of peace Luke 1:79
29 WEEK 5 PRAY ABOUT GIVING ...all shall give as they are able Deuteronomy 16:17	30 Now concerning the collection for the saints... I Corinthians 16:1-2	31 The Widows Offering Mark 12:41-44		ADORATION CONFESSION THANKSGIVING SUPPLICATION A.C.T.S. FOR MISSION	The ACTS of sharing our dollars are a medium of exchange; the real gift is our sharing of God's love with our neighbors.	

31- DERFUL WAYS TO SAY THANKS

DAY 1 We are to let His light shine through us. Give **2 cents** for every light bulb in your house.

DAY 2 Isabella Thoburn College in Lucknow, India is celebrating this year 130 years of being in mission. Give **5 cents** for every year of schooling you have.

DAY 3 Two thirds of United Methodist congregations and about 25 percent of the denomination's members live in rural areas. If you grew up in a rural area, give **10 cents.** If you grew up in the city, give **25 cents.**

DAY 4 A circle in Clayton, Georgia has made more than 700 blankets for babies from impoverished families. Give **10 cents** for each child born into your church family this year.

DAY 5 As Christians, we look to the Bible for assurance, guidance, inspiration, and truth. Give **10 cents** for each Bible in your home.

DAY 6 There are 36 local languages spoken in Ghana though English is the official language. If you can speak another language, give **5 cents** for each. If English is your only tongue, give **10 cents.**

DAY 7 We can celebrate our diversity by enjoying different ethnic foods. If you have eaten the food of another culture this week, give **10 cents.**

DAY 8 Paul said, "Now we see in a mirror dimly." We need to quit looking at ourselves and focus on others. Give **10 cents** for each mirror in your house.

DAY 9 Soups on!! If your unit collects Campbell labels for a mission project, give **5 cents.** If not, give **10 cents** and start doing so.

DAY 10 Pray for those women forced to work in sweatshops and give **25 cents** if you purchased any item of clothing this week.

DAY 11 At the Mutambara Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe eighty percent of all admissions are HIV-related. HIV medicines are not available because of cost. Give **5 cents** for each prescription drug you take.

DAY 12 The One Church. One School program in Flint, Michigan provides cookies for parties at the schools to which they are assigned. Give **10 cents** if you have had cookies this week.

DAY 13 Guns don't die. People do. Give **25 cents** if there is a gun in your house.

DAY 14 One of the traditional values of the Seminole people is the multi generational family in which the elders are cared for at home. If an elderly family member lives with you, give **10 cents.**; if not, give **25 cents.**

DAY 15 MacDonell Children's Services in Houma recycles greeting cards. Give **5 cents** for every greeting card you have sent this month.

DAY 16 Rain can be a bane or a blessing. Give **25 cents** if it rains at your house today, **10 cents** if it does not.

DAY 17 St. Mark's Community Center in New Orleans has a Female Mentoring Program to help heal families. Give **2 cents** for every daughter or granddaughter in your family.

DAY 18 Amity Foundation's new braille press has printed thousands of New Testaments in Chinese braille. In gratitude for your sight, give **25 cents.**

DAY 19 Housing and neighborhood developers in Omaha, Nebraska recently sold their 89th renovated house to a low income family. If you own your home, give **25 cents.**

DAY 20 Animals are valued by most cultures. Give **5 cents** for each pet or stuffed animal in your house.

DAY 21 Dulac Community Center has a Native American dance group, Bayou Eagles. Give **5 cents** if you have danced this week; **10 cents** if you have not.

DAY 22 What's in your refrigerator? Hungry people will eat almost anything. Give **5 cents** for every egg or **25 cents** for each spoiled item of food.

DAY 23 Do you use the **Prayer Calendar** to stay in touch with missionaries? Pray for those persons in mission celebrating birthdays today and give **25 cents** toward programs of the projects in Puerto Rico and Mexico listed.

DAY 24 The depot at Sager-Brown continues to provide disaster relief. Give **10 cents** in honor of volunteers who work there.

DAY 25 "A stitch in time saves nine." If you have mended a garment this week, give **10 cents.**

DAY 26 Congregations in Community, Minneapolis have programs for incarcerated women and men. Pray for them and give **25 cents** for freedom and justice for all.

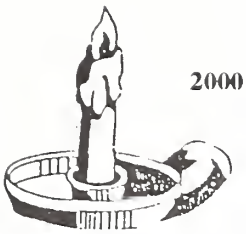
DAY 27 Rosalie Bowker, a missionary to Korea, teaches organ. Give **10 cents** for every musical instrument in your home.

DAY 28 "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." Been to the doctor this month? Give **25 cents** if you have. If not, give **10 cents.**

DAY 29 Thirsty after all this reading? Give **5 cents** for every water faucet in your house.

DAY 30 Give **5 cents** for each mission the Women's Division owns and supports in Louisiana. (There are four in case you did not know.)

DAY 31 United Methodist Women "WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE?" This is a continuing question for all members as we seek to become messengers of God's vision for a world where justice reigns, where kindness is practiced by everyone, and where all people walk humbly with God. Give **25 cents** in honor of our organization.



2000 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	$.62
1 MINUTE	$37.08
5 MINUTES	$185.42
1 HOUR	$2,225.05

The lighting of the MISSION CANDLE will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 15 - 16, 2000 at First United Methodist Church, Lake Charles. The Candle was first burned at the 1979 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present, and future as women organized for mission. Units and individuals will want to be a part of this meaningful expression of our united commitment to a worldwide program of mission outreach.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY or IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. Units are asked to solicit individuals to give the cost of one second of support with the ultimate goal of being a minute from each unit. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift requirement. All monies are incorporated into each Districts PLEDGE TO MISSION.

Please use this form to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the form, with your check to your District Treasurer by September 1st.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT - (If more space is needed, attach additional sheet. DO NOT write on back.)

Individual/Unit submitting form:_____
Church:_____ District:_____
City:_____ Phone: ( )_____

Given by: Name of Individual/Unit — In HONOR of:

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

Given by:
Name of Individual/Unit — In MEMORY of:

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $_____

The Committee on Nominations makes the following recommendations of nominees for office to be elected at the Annual Meeting, September 15, 2000.

Nominated for a two-year term (2001-2002):

Vice President - Kathleen Conrad (Acadiana)
107 Kansas Street, Lafayette, LA 70501-3843
337-235-1941

Treasurer - Jeanette McCalman (Shreveport)
715 Palmetto Avenue, Plain Dealing, LA 71064
318-326-5921

Spritual Growth - Lynn Foil (New Orleans)
1708 Kent Avenue, Metairie, LA 70001-2224
504-887-5836

Chairperson, Committee on Nominations - Rita Parham (Baton Rouge)
824 Europe Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70805
225-343-6115 or 383-2544

Nominated for the Committee on Nominations, Class of 2004

Rita Parham
824 Europe Streeeet, Baton Rouge, LA 70805
225-343-6115 or 383-2544

Stephanae Carey (New Orleans)
9 Terrazza Del Este, Harvey, LA 70058
504-362-5513

Charter for Racial Justice Committee

Nominated for a three-year term (2001 - 2003):

Delma Baker (North Shore)
30605 Walker North Road, Walker, LA 70785
225-665-6405

Claudia Hill (Acadiana)
2820 Louisiana Avenue Apt. 205, Lafayette, LA 70501
337-231-1939

Nominated for one year, 2001:

Frances Patton (Executive Representative) (Monroe)
407 Gregory Street, Vidalia, LA 71373-4072
318-336-5452

Appointive Positions for a two-year term (2000 - 2001)

Committee on Standing Rules, Chairperson
Norma Winegeart
254 Forest Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71104-4507

Editor
Nancy Carruth
P. O. Box 267, Bunkie, LA 71322

Historian
Seola Callahan
1048 Cypress Creek Road, Oakdale, LA 71463

Respectfully submitted,
Fannie Perkins Reddix
Chairperson, Committee on Nominations

REGISTRATION FORM

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
ANNUAL MEETING
September 15 - 16, 2000

First United Methodist Church
812 Kirkman Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601
(337) 436-6656

Send Registration to: Evelyn Evans
100 St. Clair
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Make checks payable to:
Louisiana Conference UMW

Pre-registration fee:	$7.50
On-site registration fee:	$10.00
Banquet Fee	$15.00

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____

Phone: ( )_____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- ☐ Conference Office - Specify_____
- ☐ Conference Executive Committee_____
- ☐ District Office - Specify_____
- ☐ Local Unit Member ☐ Voting Delegate
- ☐ Former Conference President or Guild Secretary
- ☐ Guest

MEALS: ☐ Friday Banquet ($15.00)
(Include with registration fee -
See "More about Annual Meeting")

☐ Friday Lunch ☐ Sat. Breakfast ☐ Sat. Lunch

Church:_____

City_____ District_____

Number in local unit_____

Where will you be staying during the meeting?_____

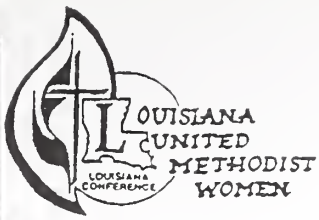
_____

Will child care be needed?_____

Ages of children_____ (No older than 10)

NOTE: Registration fee includes the cost of insurance from the time of departure for the meeting until return home, registration packet, and a small part of expense of meeting. (If you plan to attend the banquet on Friday night, money must be included with registration.

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION:
September 1, 2000



SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE RETIRING OFFICERS

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of the year to contribute to a **Special Offering** in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in U.M.W. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "thank you" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor the retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will apply to your District's **PLEDGE TO MISSION.**

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their annual meetings.

D.E.L.T.

October 21, 2000

"Leadership Celebration;
Let the New Millennium Begin"

For all elected district and conference officers

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

2000

September 14	Conference Executive Committee
September 15 - 16	UMW Conference Annual Meeting FUMC, Lake Charles
October	District Annual Meetings
October 21	DELT Conference Center Rita Parham, Chairperson Muriel Miller, Assistant Chair
November	School Committee, Program Committee Leadership Development Event, St. Louis

2001

January	Task Force for Annual Meeting
January 28	UMW Sunday
February 23 - 24	Mid-Year Executive Committee Mtg. Conference Center
April 6 - 8	Conference Retreat Louisiana Conference Center Maxie Garrett, Chairperson Kathleen Conrad, Assistant Chair
April 15	Easter

2000 DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	November 4	Baldwin
Alexandria	October 14	Pineville, FUMC
Baton Rouge	October 28	Camphor UMC Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	November 4	Westlake UMC
Monroe	October 7	Kilbourne
New Orleans	October 28	Cornerstone New Orleans
North Shore	November 4	FUMC Ponchatoula
Ruston	October 28	FUMC Haynesville
Shreveport	October 15	Christ UMC Shreveport

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Mrs. Nancy M. Carruth
P. O. Box 267
Bunkie, LA 71322

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Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXIV No. 1 January 2001

Louisiana United Methodist Women Retreat

February 23, 24, & 25, 2001
Louisiana Conference Center
Woodworth, Louisiana

Annette Fortuna
Retreat Leader

Theme: "On Our Knees ..." a prayerful journey

The theme for 12th United Methodist Louisiana Conference Retreat is "On our knees ... a prayerful journey." The scripture is "By day the Lord directs his love and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life." Psalms 42:8. We will have an opportunity to worship and give God the adoration He deserves for all the blessings He bestows upon each of us. There will be time for meditation, relaxation, and quietness as we progress on our journey. Singing the "old time religion" songs will probably bring memories to your mind.

The 2001 Retreat task group is enthusiastic about the plans and possibilities for this gathering. We believe that each one who attends the retreat will be not only richly blessed, but also stronger in her prayer life. We shall experience an outpouring of the Holy Spirit because we have been "on our knees."

The following are the thoughts and ideas of Annette Fortuna, retreat leader, about the theme: "God wants United Methodist Women to get on their knees and pray for their congregations, for their pastors, for their units, for their bishop, for their District Superintendents, for Women's Division and for the lost sheep in this world. It is my vision that we will spend a weekend together in which we will renew our passion and our desire to be women of prayer. We will pray for each other and for needs that are brought to our attention throughout the weekend. The retreat will not be about our "prayer lives," but will be about our "prayerful lives," and there is a big difference. Women with prayerful lives can make a difference because God honors the prayers of God's people. Prayers bring us into the presence of the Holy One so that we can be changed into "holy ones." United Methodist Women have been a changing force in our denomination in so many ways, and I want us to come together as women of faith and cover our conference with our blanket of prayers. The weekend will be a prayerful journey that I pray will be a trip that none of us will soon forget." Annette

Maxie Garrett
Retreat Chairperson

"On our knees ... a prayerful journey."

Your ticket for a prayerful journey during the United Methodist Women Louisiana Conference Retreat is the registration form in the newsletter. This journey will be filled with praying, singing, worshiping, and enjoying each other. Come to this retreat weekend and you will be prayerfully blessed!

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Music is always a very important part of the UMW Retreat. For the 2001 Retreat Doris Brown will be the song leader and Lana Lathan will be the pianist. Both of these ladies are familiar to many of you because they have been very active at the district and conference levels.

RETREAT TASK GROUP & OTHER LEADERSHIP

Maxie Garrett
Chairperson
(Arrangements/Site Registration)

Kathleen Conrad
Assistant Chairperson
(Program Booklet)

Lynn Foil
Table Graces

Evelyn Evans & Jeanette McCalman
Treasurer & Registration

Angelique White
Nurse

Elouise Sanders - President
Ex-Offico

Doris B. Brown

Doris Brown is a former Director of The Women's Division and General Board of Global Ministries. In these positions she served on various committees and task forces to assist in planning and policy making decisions of the Boards. Doris is a resident of Baton Rouge where she works full time as the supervisor of Accounting for East Baton Rouge Parish School System. She is married to Pastor Arnold V. Brown of Neely U.M.C., and they have a son, Arnold Brown, Jr. Doris is active in her local church where she is a member of United Methodist Women, coordinator of children's ministry, children's choir director, and a troop organizer for Girl's Scouts. Prior to being a Director, she served in the position of "Christain Personhood" for the U.M.C. Baton Rouge District. In that position, she coordinated annual spiritual enrichment events which she deeply enjoyed. On the conference level she has served as the chairperson of the retreats and the director of music. She taught in School of Christain Mission on the Conference and District levels and has been a participant of Jurisdictional and National events.

Doris is a native of Leesville, Louisiana. She earned her B.A. degree from Dillard University, New Orleans, and has done further study at Louisiana Tech University, Ruston. While at Dillard University, Doris was a member of the University Choir. She has been a guest soloist and music coordinator for the other UMW Retreats and Annual Meetings.

Lana P. Lathan

Our pianist for our UMW retreat - 2001 will be Lana P. Lathan. Lana is a lifelong member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge. She is the current president of the Baton Rouge District United Methodist Women and serves as Spiritual Growth Coordinator for her local unit. She began playing for the children's choir of her church of which she was a member at eleven years old. She plays for all Sunday services, the Sanctuary, Inspirations choirs, the Men's chorus & the Praise Team. She and the members of Wesley's music ministry team plan to seek their certification in church music in the near future. Lana is a graduate in the field of Sociology and holds a Master of Social Work degree, both from Louisiana State University. She continued her education and is currently a Registered Nurse working as a case manager There is nothing better than lifting your voice in song and praise to our savior and she feels that is no better sound than the voices of United Methodist Women together in song. It is her hope to be an inspiration during the retreat and has no doubt that she will be inspired by the spirituality of our retreat participants as they lift their voices in praise!

Lana is married to Jim Lathan and they have one son, Anthony James Lathan. She also is blessed to have the support of her family and their work and support of United Methodist Women.

With these ladies' talent and love for music, we will be richly blessed. We will enjoy their leadership as we sing praises to the Lord during our prayerful journey.

RETREAT SPIRITUAL LEADER

Annette Fortuna comes to us this year as our retreat leader with excitement and anticipation as she leads us in a weekend prayer journey. Her early experiences with learning to pray began in Vivian, Louisiana where she was born and was nurtured in her faith in Vivian Methodist Church. Giving her heart to Christ at age 15 at a weekend retreat in that church, she began her faith journey that has taken her all over the state. She is married to Rev. Dave Fortuna and they are currently living in Slidell, LA where Dave is the Senior Pastor at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Annette has developed and led several retreats for women around the conference and also has served as song leader for School of Christian Missions, Cursillo, and revivals. She has been UMW Sunday speaker for 10 different congregations over the past 4 years. While she was Children's Minister at Lea Joyner Church she wrote and developed Vacation Bible School curriculum one summer, and wrote several children's Christmas dramas. Annette has two grown daughters, Misty Davis (just recently married) and Wendy.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I trust that each of you celebrated a joyful holiday season with family and friends. A new year has begun and we are reminded to be thankful for the many blessings of the past year and to look forward to the new year with hope and anticipation.

The new year is a time for reflection and spiritual renewal. Come and join Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women for our UMW Retreat, February 23-25, 2001, at the Louisiana Conference Center.

Greet old friends, meet new friends, and spend three days praying, singing and praising God for the many blessings he bestows upon us.

Elouise Sanders

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE MISSION TODAY UNIT REPORT

NAME OF

UNIT_____CHURCH_____DISTRICT_____

GOAL: To encourage each unit to become a "Mission Today Unit."

To be recognized as a Silver Mission Today unit, the unit must complete a minimum of eight (8) of the following items, including four (4) of the asterisked (*) items.

To be recognized as a Gold MissionToday unit, the unit must complete twelve (12) or more of the following items, including four (4) of the asterisked (*) items:

PLEASE CHECK BY THE ITEM YOUR UNIT HAS COMPLETED:

___*1. Use the "Prayer Calendar" at each general meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and for our mission work with women, children and youth.

___*2. At least one (1) member of the unit (other than Conference or District officers) will attend the School of Christian Mission.

___*3. At least two (2) members, other than a Conference or District officer, will attend the District or Conference Annual Meeting.

___*4. The unit will use at least two (2) programs from the "Program Book" during the year.

___*5. The unit will have at least one (1) person joining the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information.

___ 6. Members shall write to five persons listed in the "Prayer Calendar".

___*7. The unit, circle or subgroup will conduct at least one mission study a year.

___*8. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year. Possibilities are:

-Have members read books and articles about other races and cultures;
-Sponsor an inter-ethnic event between two or more units;
-Recruit women of color to be members and officers of the unit;
-View the video on the Charter, In Search of Racial Justice. Check the conference AV library or order from Service Center, stock #2179, $15;
-Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, civil rights, programs for low income persons, etc..

___ 9. The unit will co-sponser, with the local church, a Children's Sabbath. This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children. The Women's Division and Council of Bishops support this effort. For materials contact Children's Defense fund, 25 E. St. N. W., Washington, D.C. 20001

__*10. The unit will make and meet its pledge to mission.

___11. The unit will be a Five Star unit, contributing to all five channels of undesignated giving.

___12. The unit will select a project from the Women's Division Material Resources for Mission Catalog and will contribute the needed materials to the mission project. Order from Service Center, Stock #2579, $3.50.

___13. Each unit, circle or subgroup will include a "Response" where an item from Response magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story. New World Outlook magazine provides another good way to tell the mission story.

__*14. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to Response magazine. Order from Service Center, $12 for a year's subscription. A joint subscription of Response and New World Outlook is $25 for a year.

__*15. The unit will add at least two (2) new members to its roll.

___16. The unit will participate in the Reading Program.

___17. The unit will participate in the "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" offering.

___18. The unit will observe a UMW Sunday during the year.

Name of Person Reporting_____Address_____

When completed, please send to your district Education and Interpretation person

MEET YOUR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

KATHLEEN CONRAD

Kathleen Conard
New Vice President

Kathleen Conrad was born in Geneva, New York and attended Central Missouri State University. She is married to Rev. Clifton C. Conrad Sr., the pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church in Thibodaux, LA. She is the mother of two children Chantel, who has served as a teen consultant for the national gathering of teens and college/university women of the Women's Division program ***Young Women Rise Up*** and Clifton Conrad Jr., who has served as a summer mission intern student and a Global Justice Volunteer of the General Board of Global Ministries. She is employed as a receptionist for Acadiana Otolaryngology Group in Lafayette, LA.

Kathleen serves as a coordinator of a teen United Methodist Women circle called "Little Women" at Calvary United Methodist Church where she is a member. She is a member of the Voices of Calvary church choir. She is a certified lay speaker of the Louisiana Conference and has served as a local unit treasurer and secretary of United Methodist Women.

She has served as a member of the Acadiana District Inclusivity committee. Other District offices she has served include United Methodist Women Secretary of Financial Interpretation, Acadiana District representative to the Commission on Status and Role of Women, Acadiana District Conference Center Committee, and as a board member of Camp Istrouma.

Kathleen chaired the Louisiana Conference Commission On the Status And Role of Women 1996 - 2000. She has served on the Task Force to Study Campus ministry, United Methodist Women committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policy, Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women representative to the 1996 South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting planning committee, clergy housing committee, Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Secretary of Publicity and Public Relations, and Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Historian. In 1995 she was the chairperson of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting. Kathleen was the first LA Conference teen mission study leader for the mission study, ***Mission in the 21st Century*** in 1999.

She has served as an additional member of the South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group from 1996-2000 and is a Reading Program evaluator for the Women's Division. Kathleen was the South Central Jurisdiction representative to the United Methodist Women National Seminar held in Nashville in 1999. Kathleen is a member of the committee of nominations for the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Church She was elected vice-president of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women for a term of two years at the September 2000 Annual Meeting. Kathleen enjoys sewing, cooking, traveling, writing poetry, reading, and photography.

LYNN FOIL

Lynn is a native of New Orleans, having lived in Metairie for the past 55 years. She is a widow and the mother of four daughters and grandmother to 5 (4 more girls!)

Her membership is at Metairie United Methodist Church, having served in many offices, including Church Lay Leader. She is a Certified Lay Speaker. She has served on numerous District committees and is presently serving on the District Committee on Ordained Ministry.

In United Methodist Women (including Woman's Society and Wesleyan Service Guild) she also served many offices on both the district and local levels. She enjoyed serving as President of the New Orleans District and is presently President of her local unit...She served as Secretary of Financial Interpretation for Louisiana Conference UMW.

Her hobbies are sewing, doll collecting and reading. She is currently a Freshman, at Delgado Community College in New Orleans, studying Psychology and hopes to study Child Psychology to further her interest in Child Advocacy.

Lynn Foil
New Coordinator Spiritual Growth

JEANETTE McCALMAN

Jeanette McCalman
New Treasurer

Jeanette is a member of First United Methodist Church in Plain Dealing, where she serves as church treasurer. She attended the University of Georgia with a major in accounting, and worked in accounting with the Georgia State Health Department as well as Civil Service for a number of years. She has spent the last 22 years in bookkeeping at various businesses in the Shreveport, Houston and Charlotte, N. C. areas. She is active in her local unit of UMW and has most recently been District Treasurer for the Shreveport District UMW. She is married to George McCalman, a retired U. S. Marine, and has four children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

I leave office as your Conference Treasurer with much joy. Joy in having had the privilege of serving the United Methodist Women of Louisiana. Joy in deepening my relationship/friendship with many of you. Joy in working with a wonderful Conference Team to strengthen our organization for this new millennium. And lastly the joy of MEETING OUR PLEDGE to Women's Division for the year 2000.

Yes, we did it!! The latest figures indicate that we will exceed the $240,000 pledge. We also paid an additional $34,883.58 in designated funds. Thank you, District Treasures. Your dedication and perseverance in telling "the story" helped this happen. Thank you, Local Treasurers. You were an important part of this success. Thank you, United Methodist Women of the local units. You realize that it's not the dollars, but the mission that is important. Yet we cannot function without the dollars.

So continue to be that "light shining from earthen vessels" and I'll look forward to seeing you again at conference and district events.

In His Spirit,
Evelyn Evans, Treasurer

This is Evelyn's final Treasurer's report and what a wonderful one it is. We exceeded our pledge!!! We thank Evelyn for a wonderful job that she has done these four years in this and many other areas she has served.

Congradulations are extended to one of our own - The Rev. Erica R. Jenkins, pastor of Mallalieu United Methodist Church in St. Martinville, LA. She has written a most interesting article on "Jewish-Christian Dialogue Today" which was published in the November 2000 issue of Response. If you haven't already read this, we urge you to get a November Response and read it.

IN MEMORIUM

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Elizabeth McGowan. She died on Wednesday, December 27 and her funeral was conducted at her own church, First United Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, Friday, December 29. Elizabeth had been a great leader in our Conference, having served as our Conference President from 1966-1970. She also held many offices throughout all levels and areas of the church. Those of us who were priviledged to have served with her, grieve with her family and friends this great loss.

The Editor

United Methodist Women School of Christian Mission

Dates: Tuesday - Friday,
July 10-13, 2001
Place: LA Conference Center
Woodworth, LA

Frances Patton, Dean
Brenda Canty, Assistant Dean

THEME; "Seeking Shalom"

Plans are underway for a well-rounded program of mission education, which includes in depth class experience in one of the following Studies

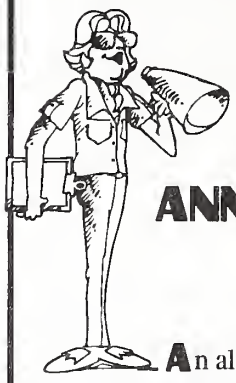
Spiritual Growth. Jesus and Courageous Women of the Bible
General Issue: Global Health and Christian Response-ability
Geographic: Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos
and
The Teen Women's study will focus on Jesus and Courageous Women *and* Global Health & Christian Response-ability

The Teen Women's group is for teens ages 14-18. This is an excellent opportunity for membership introduction and mission orientation for young girls.

Other highlights of the school will include:

A candlelight vigil and communion service on the beautiful grounds of the conference center as we seek shalom, wholeness and wellness.

The "Gift of Health" School Health Fair. The health fair will last two to three hours with an opportunity for school participants and the surrounding community to take advantage of blood pressure checks, eye and hearing screening, glucose testing, nutrition education, donor information, fitness, foot care, Diabetes, Alzheimer, Lupus and Sickle Cell Anemia information, just to name a few. Agencies on fire safety and seat belt safety will be there and much, much more. Remember, "For Your Health."



ANNOUNCING

An all new special workshop/study for Leaders of Children will be offered for the first time at the conference school. The 2001 School of Christian Mission is calling all Age-level Coordinators of Children's Ministry, Sunday School Teachers and anyone interested in teaching a study for children on Global Health and Christian Response-ability in their local church or on the district level to come join us for the study and special workshops designed to give you hands-on activities and resources you can use to teach the children's study.

Registration deadline will be June 8, 2001. Registration and complete school details will be in the May LA Conference United Methodist Women's Newsletter.

Scholarships will also be available on the district and conference levels. More detailed information will appear in the Louisiana N. O. W. and the UMW District Newsletters.

Come and enjoy an opportunity to grow in the understanding of God's call to Christian discipleship and to expand your concepts of mission!

REGISTRATION & HOUSING FORM
2001 Retreat
February 23 - 25, 2001

Louisiana Conference Center

Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

_____

City:_____

State:_____Zip:_____

Phone NO. ( ) _____

Church:_____

District:_____

Names of Requested Roommates

_____

_____

_____

- -

Health Information

Special Needs:

No Stairs_____

Other handicapping conditions _____

_____

In case of an emergency, please contact

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Telephone(s)_____

I am under treatment for_____

Allergies_____

Current Medications_____

_____

Name of Physician_____

Physician's Telephone No_____

Your signature_____

Date_____

Send This Form & Fees by February 12 To:

Jeanette McCalman
715 Palmetto Avenue
Plain Dealing, LA 71064
Make check payable to:
Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

Retreat Registration and Housing Information

All participants will be housed at the Louisiana Conference Center. Rooms will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. All rooms have two double beds and bath. There are a limited number of first floor accommodations. Please note special needs on registration form. **Cost is based on number of persons per room and includes registration and meals from Friday evening through Sunday noon, as well as insurance coverage from the time you leave your home, throughout your stay, to your return home.**

The cost is as follows:

4 to a room $ 92.00 per person
3 to a room $ 95.00 per person
2 to a room $100.00 per person

Please register together if at all possible. If at the last minute, one or more persons in a group are unable to attend, others in that room must pay the difference in room rates. No refunds after February 12.

Because of the cafeteria style arrangements for preparing and serving food, special diets are not available. Care will be taken to try and provide low fat, low sodium items at meals.

OFFERING - The offering taken at the Retreat will go undesignated toward the Conference Pledge to Missions.

DIRECTIONS;

FROM BATON ROUGE, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 Miles) FROM NEW ORLEANS, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182) miles. FROM SHREVEPORT, take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

2001

January 20	Task Force for Annual Meeting
January 28	UMW Sunday
February 23	Mid-Year Executive Committee Mtg. Conference Center
February 23-24-25	Conference Retreat Louisiana Conference Center Maxie Garrett, Chairperson Kathleen Conrad, Assistant Chair
April 15	Easter
June 3-6	Louisiana Annual Conference Centenary College
June 15-19	West Gulf Regional School Oklahoma City, OK
July 9	Committee Meetings Conference Center
July 10-13	Conference School of Christian Mission Conference Center Frances Patton, Dean Brenda Canty - Asst. Dean
September 13	Conference Executive Committee
September 14-15	UMW Conference Annual Meeting St. Timothy on the North Shore, U.M.C. Mandeville, La.
October	District Annual Meetings
October 13	DELT Conference Center Muriel Miller, Chair Evelyn Evans - Asst. Ch.
November	School Committee, Program Committee

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Mrs. Nancy M. Carruth
P.O. Box 267
Bunkie, LA 71322

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Permit No. 82

Magale Library
Centenary Library
P.O.Box 4188
Shreveport, La. 71104

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXIV No. 2 **May 2001**

SEEKING SHALOM

Peace, peace to him that is far off and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him. Isaiah 57:19
For the LORD shall be thine everlasting light and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. Isaiah 60:20
Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth. Jeremiah 33:6

Shalom to the Israelites was the ideal of peace, justice and health in body, mind and soul. By following God's way, life for the individual and the community would be lived in shalom; but the Bible is full of stories of the people straying and struggling - seeking shalom.

As we look back to the past century, there were outstanding people who wanted to make a difference and change the world. The top of the list in a poll taken in late 1999 were Elvis Presley, Adolf Hitler, Albert Einstein, Mohandas Gandhi, Billy Graham and Mother Teresa. All of these except one wanted shalom, but only two, Billy Graham and Mother Teresa proclaimed that peace would only come through the reign of God in human hearts and that the kingdom of God is here in Jesus Christ.

Shalom came to many women of the New Testament as their lives were touched and changed by their involvement in Jesus' ministry. Some he healed. Some he taught. Some supported his ministry. The lives of these women impel women of today to re-assess their own lives in relation to the church and society.

Today vast numbers are in need of shalom. Health care has become a privilege of the rich. Healing was an integral part of Jesus' ministry. In the tradition of Jesus, Christians in mission have established hospitals and primary care centers. United Methodists as individuals and congregations care for themselves, their families and communities. Their support of United Methodist healing ministries contribute to a healthier future for all God's people.

The legacy of war in southeast Asia is a wound which continues to call people of faith to healing action. The war left scars on the land and on the people who lived through it. The legacy of war is still present in the lives of those who stayed, those who fled and those who witnessed the violence. After more than a quarter century, individuals and nations are called to seek new beginnings and move toward shalom.

Like the courageous women of the New Testament, we are called to learn Christ's lessons for living and follow him into the world challenging injustice and seeking shalom.

Frances Patton, 2001 Dean and Brenda Canty, 2001 Assistant Dean are happy to welcome you to the School of Christian Mission 2001 Tuesday-Friday, July 10-13, 2001.

FRANCES PATTON
Dean

BRENDA CANTY
Assistant Dean

It's that time again. Time to make plans to attend School of Christian Mission. The dates are July 10-13 and the place is Louisiana Conference Center.
The studies will be interesting, there will be good food, comfortable accomodations, and great fellowship.
Call your friends and make plans to attend. Frances and Brenda have worked for months to plan this event, let's all come and enjoy the fruits of their labor.
All the information is in this newsletter. Fill out the forms and join us on July 10-13 for the Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission.

Elouise Sanders
Conference President

HEALTH FAIR

Brenda Canty, Vice President, requested that I coordinate the Health Fair which is to be held on July 12 from 2-4 p.m. at the School of Missions.

I contacted the Community Education Director, Karen Hawthorne, at Rapides Medical Center who will help set up an informational check-up for members and guests. She will arrange for the following:

1. Blood Pressure Checks
2. Breast Examination techniques
3. Diabetes finger-prick reading
4. Information on osteoporosis, arthritis
5. Cardiac Artery Disease (Heart Attack & Stroke)
6. Brochures on various topics
7. Diet

Dr. R. B. Wallace, Opthalmologist, participates in providing information to the community by allowing his nurse technician to set up eye examinations for cataracts and glaucoma at Health Fairs. She will be present and giving exams.

Mr. Johnny Yates, Physical Director of Rapides General Health Central, will set up a program consisting of information on physical exercise and will lead small groups in learning to do chair exercises. Participants will be in a separate room for approx. 15 minute sessions.

One of the leaders asked about having door prizes which have been very successful in other health fairs. There will be NO charge for any of the services provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel

Muriel Miller, Coordinator

Wanted

Personal care items for Women and Children:
- **Bath Soap**
- **Small bottles of shampoo**
- **Deodorant**
- **Lotion**
- **Conditioner**
- **Toothpaste**
- **Toothbrushes (with holders if possible)**
- **Wash cloths**

These items will be packed in ziplock bags and distributed to women and children in need. There will be a collection box in the registration area at the School of Mission.

Interested in being in mission? Surrender your Campbell soup labels at the School of Christian Mission for St. Mark's Community Center.

Contact your district president for specific brands and label collecting instructions.

Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine you did for me. Matthew 25:40

Kathleen Conrad
Vice-President

2001 Mission Education Events

Saturday, August 4, 2001
Baton Rouge District
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
To be announced
Doris Carter, Dean
Edna Hickman, Assistant Dean

Saturday, August 4, 2001
New Orleans District
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Bethany UMC-4533 Mandez St., New Orleans
Host Unit President: Sybil Boseman
Sybil Boseman, Dean
Maribe Calvo, Assistant Dean

Saturday, August 11, 2001
Monroe District
9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
St. Joseph UMC, St. Joseph
Host Unit President: Betty Anthony
Sandy DeCelle, Dean

Saturday, August 11, 2001
Ruston District
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Minden First UMC-903 Broadway, Minden
Host Unit President: Linda Berry
Barbara Causey, Dean
Pat Pace, Assistant Dean

Saturday, August 18, 2001
North Shore District
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Hartzell-Mt. Zion UMC, Slidell
Host Unit President: Phyllis Eden
Delma Baker, Dean

Saturday, August 18, 2001
Shreveport District
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Benton UMC, Benton
Host Unit President: Barbara Christian
Shirley Ledbetter, Dean

Sunday, August 19, 2001
Lake Charles District
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Squires UMC, 171 North, Ragley
Host Unit President: Fran Hendricks
Mary Ann Monk, Dean
Seola Callahan, Assistant Dean

Saturday, August 25, 2001
Acadiana District
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Trinity UMC
101 Main Street/Hwy. 90, Baldwin
Host Unit: Calvary
Idella Stevenson, Dean

Saturday, September 29, 2001
Alexandria District
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
First UMC-411 Second Street, Natchitoches
Host Unit President: Evelyn Evans
Fern Christensen, Dean
Judy McDonald, Assistant Dean

THE LEARNING CENTER DISTRICT SPONSORED DISPLAYS WILL HIGHLIGHT 2001 STUDIES

The Learning Center will be located along the hallway of the main lodge. A table for each district will be provided. Displays are to be ready for viewing by 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 10, 2001. Learning center topics include:

JESUS AND COURAGEOUS WOMEN

1. Baton Rouge District - Women Who Love and Dare
2. Lake Charles District - Women Who Struggle and Resist
3. Northshore District - Women Teachers and Disciples

GLOBAL HEALTH AND CHRISTIAN RESPONSE-ABILITY

4. Alexandria District - Global Health: Biblical and Theological Guides
5. Monroe District - Global Health: Government policies and environmental factors
6. New Orleans District - Global Health: Health Care from a faith perspective

VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, LAOS

7. Ruston District - Vietnam: Geography, Culture, Religion
8. Shreveport District - Cambodia: Geography, Culture, Religion
9. Acadiana District - Laos: Geography, Culture, Religion

SCHEDULE FOR 2001 SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Tuesday

9:00 a.m. to Noon	Arrival/Registration
11:00 - 11:45	First Timers; Learning Center
	12 Noon LUNCH
1:00 - 1:15	Community Singing
1:15 - 2:15	Opening Plenary I
2:30 - 3:30	Class - Jesus & Courageous Women
3:45 - 4:45	Classes - Global Health or Vietnam
5:00 - 5:30	Choir Practice/Visit Resource Center
5:00 - 6:00	Workshop for Leaders of Children's Study
	6:00 p.m. DINNER
7:15 - 8:30	UMW Focus

Wednesday

8:00 - 8:15	Community Singing
8:15 - 8:45	Plenary II
9:00 - 11:00	Classes - Global Health or Vietnam
11:15 - 12:00	Choir Practice/Visit Resource Center
	12 Noon LUNCH
1:15 - 3:15	Class - Jesus & Courageous Women
3:15 - 3:45	Quiet Time
4:00 - 6:00	Classes - Global Health or Vietnam
	6:00 p.m. DINNER
7:00 - 8:00	Workshop for Leaders of Children's Study
8:00 - 9:00	Communion & Candlelight Vigil

Thursday

8:00 - 8:15	Community Singing
8:15 - 8:45	Plenary III
9:00 - 11:00	Classes - Global Health or Vietnam
11:15 - 12:00	Workshops for those planning to lead studies & Leaders of Children's Study
	12 Noon LUNCH
1:15 - 3:15	Classes - Global Health or Vietnam
3:30 - 6:00	The School Health Fair
	6:00 p.m. DINNER
7:00 - 9:00	Class - Jesus & Courageous Women

Friday

8:00 - 9:00	Classes - Global Health or Vietnam
9:15 - 10:15	Class - Jesus & Courageous Women
10:15 - 11:00	Closing Plenary IV
	Evaluation

Morning Praise: 6:45 a.m. & Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
No Lunch on Friday

Please Return Room Keys and Name Tags

MEET YOUR SCH

Spiritual Growth:
Jesus and Courageous Women

Dr. Rena M. Yocom
Dr. Yocom is currently serving as Executive Director, Conference Mission and Ministries for the Louisiana Area of the United Methodist Church.
Rena is vice-president of World Association for Christian Communication. She has co-authored and co-taught the Journeys through Scripture series; formed and led Especially for Women, a Bible study covenant group, edited the mission study *New Wineskins* and co-edited *Church in the Movement of the Spirit.* She received accolades for planning and coordinating two Global Gatherings.
She is a graduate of St. Paul School of Theology Seminary, Doctor of Ministry. She has led workshops internationally and in 1994 received the St. Paul School of Theology Graduate Award, honoring her commitment to inclusive evangelism. She and her husband Larry have two children and one grandson.

Rena Yocom

Dalila Cruz

Geographical:
Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos

Alonzo Campbell

Rev. Alonzo Campbell
Alonzo Campbell is a native of New Orleans. He is married to Jacqueline Stewart Campbell, who hails from Anniston, Alabama and serves as a Pine Ridge faculty member in Walker, LA. They are the parents of one son, Kevin.
Alonzo is a graduate of Clark Atlanta University, Gammon Theological Seminary and Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Currently, he is the Pastor of Roberts United Methodist Church, Denham Springs; St. Luke United Methodist Church, Greenwell Springs; LA Conference Director of special Ministries and adjunct Faculty member of the Gammon Theological Seminary-Dillard venture in New Orleans. He has served as a Study Group Leader in prior conference Schools of Christian Missions in the Louisiana, Missouri West and Kansas West Conferences.

Gloria Tuck Bennett
Gloria is a native of Louisiana and a retired legal secretary and paralegal. She has served as a study leader in Louisiana, South Georgia, Virginia and South Carolina conference Schools of Mission. She has served as Chairman of Louisiana Conference Wesleyan Service Guild; Conference Coordinator of Christian Social Involvement in United Methodist Women; Assistant Dean of School of Christian Mission; and is a certified lay speaker. She is a member of her church's Chancel Choir. Gloria's community service includes working with Little Theater and Twin City Ballet; disaster services of American Red Cross, Kellogg Boy's Club at Louisiana Training Institute, legislative and health advocacy committees of AARP, and Louisiana Federation of Women's Clubs. Her hobbies are music, reading, travel, and chatting on the internet with her niece in Boston.

Gloria Bennett

OOL PERSONNEL

VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA

Joan Cleveland

Joan is married and has one son who lives in Naples, Florida. She is a member of First Methodist Church, Tuscumbia, AL and of North Alabama Conference of U.M.C. She is retired from Tennessee Valley Authority, where she worked 25 years. Her education includes degrees in Accounting, Economics and Business Administration. In the United Methodist Women's organization she has served 3 years as a Conference Treasurer, 4 years as a Conference President and 8 years as a Women's Division Director. Aside from being very active in her local church, she has held positions of responsibility at the district and conference levels. She has also worked with organizations in the community. One way was serving as Treasurer of Combined Federal Campaign (United Way, Health Agencies.)

Joan has traveled extensively throughout Europe and Asia: China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan, Philippines, Mexico, Poland, Austria, Hungary, Chezk Republic, Germany, India, England, Ireland, Russia, Khasakistan, Uzebekistan, Indonesia and Malaysia. Her hobbies and interests are reading, swimming, writing humorous skits and raps.

Joan Cleveland

Dalila Cruz

Dalila is from San Antonio, Texas and has been active in United Methodist Women related activities since the age of fifteen. Mrs. Cruz majored in music at Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas and has traveled extensively throughout the world. She has one daughter and one granddaughter.

She is a member of the Rio Grande Conference and has been active in choral direction; at present is choir director at her local church. She served as song leader at several Schools of Christian Mission. She is presently serving as Conference U.M.W. Secretary for the Rio Grande Conference. She was employed by Women's Division as Executive Secretary for Leadership Development and has held positions with the General Commission on Religion and Race and General Council on Ministries.

Rachel Bachenberg

Rachel Bachenberg

Rachel has been an active United Methodist Woman for many years serving as a District Officer, Dean and Assistant Dean, Missouri West School of Christian Mission, Retreat and Study Leader.

She has enjoyed attending National Assembly since 1982; 1991 National Seminar, and the 1995 UN Forum on Women. She serves as a volunteer consultant on U.M.W. Membership Campaign and is president of U.M.W. Unit. She was a US-2 person in mission serving at Epworth Village in York, Nebraska from 1981-83.

Rachel is a Registered Nurse, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Kansas City, Missouri. She collects textiles and international clothing and loves to read and travel. In 1998 she traveled to Indonesia with the General Board of Global Ministries Culture and Mission Tour. Her favorite place to shop is the Broadway U.M.C. Bazaar and she loves chocolate.

Barbara Stauss

Barbara, or "Babs" as she signed her letter, is the daughter of a medical doctor, who was superintendent of MS State Tuberculosis Sanitarium. She was married to a surgeon until his death in 1988, and has five grown married children who are active in architecture, graphic design, and orthopedic surgery. She worked as a lab technician in public health and charity hospital.

For eight years she was Associate Director in Mississippi Conference on Ministries, and served 8 years on the General Council of Finance and Administration of U.M.C. She was editor of Women's Page in the *Mississippi Advocate* for 25 years. In Wesley U.M.C. She served as pianist/organist for 35 years. In her community she has served on boards of community centers, Indian Mission, Wesley Foundations of 3 universities. She was 2 term president of Mississippi Church Women United and United Methodist Women. Currently, she teaches an Adult Bible Class every Sunday, manages a graphic design studio, and is treasurer of women's prison ministry.

She has taught in Schools of Christian Mission in nine conferences.

Barbara Stauss

GLOBAL HEALTH AND CHRISTIAN RESPONSE-ABILITY

Marzia Fitzner

Marzia Fitzner

Marzia has been married forty years with four grown children and four grandchildren. She has served in various offices as needed in a small unit; on the district level she has served as Vice President and President; and on the conference level she has been Financial Interpretation, Supportive Community, and President. She has been Dean of Regional School of Christian Mission twice, and served 8 years on Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries and UMCOR.

Marzia is active in her church, serving on a variety of boards at the conference level: leadership team, Bishop's Dream Team, Conference Board of Missions, Director of General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious concerns. She was given the New Mexico Conference Living Archive Award-given to lay and clergy achieving outstanding leadership.

Rev. Rodney Duane Wooten

Rev. Rodney D. Wooten is a native of Los Angeles, CA and a former professional basketball player with the European Basketball Association. He attended Texas Southern University, graduate of Lane College, Jackson, TN, B.S., and Memphis Theological Seminary, Master of Arts in Religion, Master of Divinity degrees. While attending the seminary, he served as student body president.

He is a founding member and servant of the non-profit Minister's Empowerment Association, for church empowerment of voiceless citizens, Project SCOPE, a task force that works with parents and students in the school system, and Upward Basketball, a Christian Basketball League for youth.

Rev. and Mrs. Wooten have received recognition as community leaders. Both were awarded the Honorary Doctorate, Religious Humanities. He is pastor of Immanuel U.M.C., Lafayette, LA. They are parents of one son, Monterio.

Rodney & Darlene Wooten

Teen Women's Study Leaders:

Darlene M. Wooten

Darlene is a native of Los Angeles, CA and a "PK-Preacher's Kid". She is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University, N.A., Counseling Psychology, University of Southern California, BA Psychology. She has been employed as a social worker, Children's Services, Los Angeles, counselor, social worker and teacher, Tennessee, Special Education Teacher, Behavior Disorder Children, Lafayette, LA. She is a licensed Marital & Family Therapist, private practice.

Darlene is an active member of United Methodist Women, The Praise Team, The Inspirational Choir, and is an Adult Class Sunday School Teacher. She enjoys bowling, cooking, traveling and step aerobics.

Cheryl Milburn

Cheryl C. Milburn

Cheryl is a native of Opelousas and a member of St. Mark United Methodist Church in Opelousas, where she serves as superintendent of Sunday School, Youth Sunday School teacher, Children's Choir Director and Youth Ministry Coordinator. Cheryl also serves as project director of a youth project called "Cradle of Hope". Her greatest achievement as director has been the establishment of a "Helping Hand Program" where youth volunteer to provide lawn service and doing small household chores around the homes of elderly in the community and a "Vegetable Garden Project".

She is active in her local unit of United Methodist women where she has served as president for two years and currently serving on the nominating committee. On the district level she has served as Communications Coordinator from 1998-2000.

Cheryl is Chief Deputy Registrar of voters in St. Landry Parish. She attended Southern University, Baton Rouge with a major in Sociology.

Workshop for Adult Leaders of Children Studies

Evelyn Evans

Evelyn has served the Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women as Treasurer, Secretary, and Dean of the School of Christian Mission. She has been the coordinator of local arrangements for West Gulf Regional School at Centenary College. She has served the Alexandria District as President, Vice-President, and Treasurer and the Natchitoches District as Treasurer.

Evelyn has also given freely of her time, talents and finances for work in her local church in Natchitoches. She has received much support from her family-her husband, their six children and spouses and twelve grandchildren.

Evelyn Evans

Pianist:

Dorothy "Jackie" Pennington

Jackie is a native of Belzoni, Mississippi. She now lives in Covington, LA and works with her husband, Walter, who is pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in Covington. She attended Alcorn State University in Lorman, Mississippi and is now employed by the St. Tammany Parish School System as a vocal and piano teacher.

Jackie and her husband have four children. She enjoys her family, traveling, reading, playing and listening to good music.

Annette Fortuna

Song Leader:

Annette Fortuna

Annette is Director of Children's Music Ministry in her home church, Aldersgate in Slidell. She serves on the worship Committee and leads a Disciple II Bible Class. She sings in the adult choir as well as playing in an adult handbell choir.

She will be leading three Spiritual Retreats this year as well as being the song leader for Regional School of Christian Mission in June in Oklahoma City.

She is married to the Rev. Dave Fortuna and the proud mother of two beautiful daughters, Misty and Wendy - and a son-in-law is now part of the family.

Our Executive Secretary for Justice, Education, (Gloria), is asking to please take time from our busy schedules and participate in the following activities:

(1) Take part in the National Mobilization Against Sweatshops
(2) Observe **TV FREE AMERICA FOR A WEEK**

April 23-29 has been suggested, or choose any other week. We hope this week will be of fun for you and your family.
I have sent your District Action Coordinator materials. The books are available from:

TV TURN OFF WEEK
1611 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Suite 3A
Washington, D.C. 20009
or
FAX: 202-518-5560

All UMW Units are encouraged to continue to work to become members of the 20/20 Charter Club

Ethel Lilly, Conference Social Action

Program Resources Service Center
General Board of Global Ministries
The United Methodist Church
7820 Reading Road, Caller No. 1800
Cincinnati, OH 45222-1800
1-800-305-9857; 1-513-761-3722;
Fax 1-513-761-2100; Ext. 116 Customer Service

BIBLE STUDY:
Jesus and the Courageous Women of the Bible
Stock #2964 Price NA*

GLOBAL HEALTHCARE AND CHRISTIAN RESPONSE-ABILITY:
Adult Study: Abundant Living
Stock #2975 Price NA*
Youth Study: Youth Chat
Stock # 2985 Price NA*
Leaders Guide to Youth Study above
Stock # 2990 Price NA*
Children's Study: Global Health
Stock #2975 Price NA*
Leaders Guide to Children's Study above
Stock #2983 Price NA*

VIETNAM, CAMBODIA AND LAOS: LANDS AND PEOPLE
Study Book: Vietnam: Life on the Mecong
Stock #2968 Price NA*
Video: Cambodia: Mission Initative
Stock #2899 Price NA*

Prices were not available in time for this newsletter

Titles of other resources are not available at this time. Watch for the new SERVICE CENTER CATALOG to be issued soon. It will contain all the information such as correct titles and prices for all the resources needed for the studies.

A Word from Your Conference Secretary of Program Resources

First I want to thank the many who have helped me in this the beginning year of my service. May God bless each one of you. This has been a learning and rewarding time for us all. This experience will help lead to a more complete resource room for our needs as we strive to learn to do God's will.

I received several requests for materials that I was able to fill at the retreat in February. Our next conference event will be Christian School of Mission in July. I will be glad to order any materials for you and have them available at that time. Please send your request to me by May 22, 2001 as my order to the Service Center must be in before May 29th. Be sure to visit the Resource Room every time you have a few minutes. We try very hard to have the materials you need not only for School of Missions but for the whole U.M.W. Program. The current Reading Program books will also be available for purchase.

Now, a word to the District SPRs about the Reading Program. Please remember that your reports must be in to me by August 15th. So you should probably have the local SPRs report by July 31st. This is so that I can tally all the reports and have everything ready for the Annual Meeting. We also want to remember to promote the Reading Program and our two mission magazines (Response and New World Outlook) at every opportunity. It is very important for you to attend SCM to learn more about the programs, goals and new materials and to receive a spiritual uplift from the studies as we go about the work God calls us to do. Your help will also be needed in the Resource Room.

Shirley Jacocks,
Conference Secretary of Program Resources

THE ESTELLE DAMERON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women annually provides interested women an opportunity to attend its School of Christian Mission through the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship was founded in 1981 and honors the late Estelle Darsey Dameron, 1906 - 1996. The scholarship continues to grow in Mrs. Dameron's honor through gifts, special offerings, and yearly contributions from local UMW units. This tradition is even more important as we prepare for mission in the year 2001 and beyond.

The Membership Nurture & Outreach Committee is encouraging young, seasoned, energetic, single, married, employed, homemakers, students or newly retired women to apply for a scholarship. Applicants can come from a large or small unit and we will also consider persons other than members of United Methodist Women. Getting women interested in mission at an early age and at new life stages is one way to insure the vitality and growth of an educated, mission minded membership. Please urge women in these age/interest categories to apply. All applicants should indicate a willingness to attend and participate fully in all activities of the school. One applicant per unit and **first timers ONLY** should send a completed application form with a written statement of 50 words or more, entitled: ***I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because...***

Applications must be postmarked by May 31, 2001 and mailed to:
Brenda Canty
3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant _____ Phone ( ) _____

Applicant's Address _____ State_____Zip _____

Unit (church) Name _____ District _____

Unit President or Contact Person _____

President or Church Address _____ State_____Zip _____

(1) Has applicant attended a School of Christian Mission before?
- ❑ Yes
- ❑ No

(2) Applicant's age grouping:
- ❑ High School
- ❑ under 35
- ❑ 36-50
- ❑ 51 and older

(3) Employment:
- ❑ Full time
- ❑ Part time
- ❑ Retired
- ❑ Student
- ❑ Homemaker

(4) Applicant's choice of study:
- ❑ Global Health
- ❑ Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos

Registration and Housing Information

All participants are required to register and provide health information. The registration fee includes insurance coverage from the time you leave your home, throughout your stay, to your return home.

Housing at Conference Center

Rooms will be filled on a first-come first-serve basis. All rooms have two double beds and bath. There are a limited number of first floor accommodations. Please note special needs on registration form. Cost is based on number of persons per room and **includes meals and registration**. There must be at least one adult in the room with youth. The cost for adults/youth is as follows:

4 to a room	$105.00 per person
3 to a room	$125.00 per person
2 to a room	$150.00 per person

Alternative Housing

Those not staying at the Conference Center must make their own arrangements. Cost for these persons and persons who live in the area are as follows:

Registration	$15.00
Meals	$20.00 a day

Anyone not a member of the School Committee or Conference Officer, who comes early due to car pool shall pay an extra $25 for a room and meals.

Please register together if at all possible. If at the last minute, one or more persons in a group are unable to attend, others in that room must pay the difference in room rates.

Because of the cafeteria style arrangements for preparing and serving food, special diets are not available. Care will be taken to try and provide low fat, low sodium items at meals.

OFFERING - The offering taken at the School of Mission will go undesignated to mission.

Send This Form & Fees By June 15 to:
Jeanette McCalman
715 W. Palmetto Avenue - Plain Dealing, LA 71064
Make Check Payable to:
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

ADULT REGISTRATION
School of Christian Mission
July 10 - 13, 2001
Louisiana Conference Center

Name:_____
Address:_____
City:_____Zip:_____
Phone No. ( )_____
Church:_____District:_____
Check all that apply:
[ ] First Timer
[ ] Executive Committee [ ] District Officer
[ ] Rooming with youth [ ] Staying at home
[ ] Arriving Monday [ ] Tuesday

Roommates preferred _____
_____
_____

Studies: Choose One of the Following:
[ ] Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos
[ ] Global Health & Christian-Responsibility
Everyone participates in the study:
Jesus and Courageous Women

YOUTH REGISTRATION

Name:_____
Age:_____
Address:_____
City:_____Zip:_____
Phone No. ( )_____
Church:_____District:_____
Name of Adult rooming with you:
_____

*Youth must be 13 to 17 years old
All Youth participate in the combined study:
Jesus and Courageous Women
Global Health & Christian-Responsibility

HEALTH INFORMATION
Special Needs:
No Stairs____Other handicapping conditions_____
In case of emergency, please contact:
Name_____
Address_____City_____
State_____Zip_____Telephone(s)_____
I am under treatment for_____
Allergies_____
Current Medications_____
Name of Physician_____Physician's Phone No._____
Your Signature_____Date_____

DAMERON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Are you a past recipient of the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship? If so, we need you to join the Association.

All good schools deserve a great Alumni Association to encourage its continued success. Dues are $10.00 per year. Make check payable to LA Conference UMW. Due by June 8, 2001 to Jeanette McCalman, Conference Treasurer.

The Dameron Alumni Association Board of Recipients and Members will be displayed in the Lobby area during the school.

Contact Brenda Canty, Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach for further details and joining information:

3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805 or
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

DIRECTIONS;
FROM BATON ROUGE, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles) **FROM NEW ORLEANS**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles) **FROM SHREVEPORT**, take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)

School Committee

Elouise Sanders, President, Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
---------- Officer Update

Kathleen Conrad, Vice-President
---------- Officer Update

Caroyln Colvin, Conference Secretary
---------- Officer Update

Jeanette McCalman, Conference Treasurer
---------- Registration and Housing

Evelyn Evans ---------- Registration and Housing

Lynn Foil, Conference Spiritual Growth
---------- Worship Center, Table Graces
---------- Morning Praise

Frances Patton, Conference Education & Interpretation
---------- Dean

Brenda Canty, Conference Membership, Nurture and Outreach
---------- Dean West Gulf Regional, Assistant Dean

Ethel Lilly, Conference Social Action
---------- Officer Update

Shirley Jacocks, Conference Secretary of Program Resources
---------- Literature Display and Sale

Angelique White, Conference Communications Coordinator
---------- Publicity

Nancy Carruth, Editor, LA Conference UMW Newsletter
---------- SCM Issue UMW Newsletter

Muriel Miller
---------- Area Arrangements and Hospitality

Lena French
---------- Area Arrangements and Hospitality

Annette Fortuna
---------- Song Leader

Dorothy "Jackie" Pennington
---------- Pianist

Fannie Reddix
---------- Audio Visual Resource Coordinator

Anita Hansberry
---------- Nurse

MISSIONARY:
Rachel Griesson, US2, Nan Bland's granddaughter.
Carolina Labrada

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

2001

April 15	Easter
June 3-6	Louisiana Annual Conference
June 15-19	West Gulf Regional School Oklahoma City, OK
July 9	Committee Meetings Conference Center
July 10-13	Conference School of Christian Mission Conference Center Frances Patton, Dean Brenda Canty - Asst. Dean
September 13	Conference Executive Committee
September 14-15	UMW Conference Annual Meeting St. Timothy on the North Shore, U.M.C. Mandeville, LA
October	District Annual Meetings
October 13	DELT Conference Center Muriel Miller, Chair Evelyn Evans - Asst. Ch.
November	School Committee, Program Committee

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Mrs. Nancy M. Carruth
P.O. Box 267
Bunkie, LA 71322

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Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXIV No. 3 *August 2001*

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14-15, 2001

"I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES"

The 28th Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will convene at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Timothy on the North Shore UMC in Mandeville, Louisiana, Friday, September 14, 2001.
The theme will emphasize the connectedness women must feel with each other and the vine in order to work effectively. The theme for the meeting, "I Am the Vine, You Are the Branches" based on the scripture John 15:1-11, (highlighting) John 15:5,11, shows us that only as the branches stay connected to the vine can they receive life and bear fruit. The branches are the members of Christ's Church, just as the body has many parts so it is with United Methodist Women - one body with many members. The grapevine with its many branches differing in size, shape, length, thickness and age. The unique spiritual gifts of each woman must be acknowledged, valued, accepted, and respected by every other member. Let us stay connected to the vine so that our fruitfulness will be sustained in the year ahead. Here in lies the key to true happiness and complete joy.

Elouise Sanders, Conference President, will preside over the meeting; Members and guests will be welcomed by host pastor, Rev. James Mitchell; Tillie Shows North Shore District UMW president, and Rev. Grayson Watson, North Shore District Superintendent. Jane Eubanks, past president of the North Shore UMW is chairperson for the event assisted by Ella Mae Doyle, North Shore District Vice-President; Pat Smith and Sue Doolittle are in charge of local arrangements.

We look forward to having as our guest speaker Cheryl Hemmerle from Women's Division whom we will hear from on Friday night and again on Saturday morning.

A banquet has been planned, our Bishop, William Hutchinson and his wife Kay will be with us for a time of fun and fellowship. The ladies of St. Timothy UMW and the North Shore District are dedicated to making this annual meeting productive and enjoyable for all. Come see the beautiful facilities at St. Timothy UMC.

ST. TIMOTHY ON THE NORTH SHORE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA

JANE EUBANKS
Chairperson

ELLA MAE DOYLE
Assistant Chairperson

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

The twenty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will be held on September 14-15, 2001, at St. Timothy on the North Shore in Mandeville.

The theme for the meeting is "I Am The Vine, You Are The Branches." John 15:5. Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches. We must stay connected to the true vine in order to be true disciples and be in mission to a hurting world.

Part of the business of Annual Meeting is the election of leadership. In accordance with the Conference Standing Rules, the slate of nominees is listed in this publication. Voting membership is composed of the following: Members of the Conference Executive Committee, District Elected Leaders, the spouse of the resident Bishop, President of all predecessor organizations and delegates from local units. Local units are represented on the basis of one delegate for each one hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof provided each unit, regardless of size, shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Membership of each local unit is determined according to the current Annual Report and Directory, unless corrections are given to the conference president sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting.

Elouise Sanders,
Conference President

This 72nd edition of your Conference Newsletter will be my last as your editor. After 22 years, I feel it is time for me to retire from this and pass the reigns on to new hands. It has been my pleasure to have served my United Methodist Women in this capacity and I thank all of you who have worked with me through the years to get the news out to you–

A special thanks to the ladies from the Pineville area who have helped with the labeling and processing– Couldn't have done it without you!

Nancy M. Carruth

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING

Facts and Focus

Please fill out the registration form included in this newsletter and send all information to Jeanette McCalman. Also each person who registers (attends) including all officers, must pay the $7.50 registration fee. This includes the insurance that will cover you from the time you leave home, throughout the meeting, and your return home. Also, please be sure to indicate if you will be needing child care and check the boxes that will let us know what meals you will be eating at St. Timothy UMC. Note, two Motels have a complimentary breakfast (Best Western and Super 8 Motel). This will help us in planning food services. Remember, there will be a banquet Friday evening and you must pre-register for that also. The cost is $15.00 per person, sent in to Jeanette with your registration. The proposed menu consists of Chicken Roulade Florentine (Boneless breast of chicken filled with cornbread dressing over a bed of spinach Florentine), vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert.

The Breakfast served at the church will be Continental style consisting of coffee, juice, fruit, and pastries. Please plan accordingly. A soup, sandwich, and salad lunch will be available in the FLC gym on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and sandwiches on Saturday after the closing of Communion Service.

A post-executive committee meeting will be held in room 117 (off the gym), immediately following the Communion Service, where lunch for the retiring officers, incoming officers, and all members of the committee will be served.

MISSION OFFERING

On Saturday morning an offering to be given to undesignated mission will be taken. Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the "Mission Candle" and "One second of Your Time" as you honor loved ones. These help increase our Gift to Mission and keep the Mission Candle burning as long as possible during the Annual Meeting.

REGISTRATION

Registration will begin at St. Timothy on the North Shore Church in the new addition (back by portico entrance) at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 14, and continue until 12:30 p.m. St. Timothy is located at 335 Asbury Drive, Mandeville, LA (behind the Shopping Center, and Semolina's). You will be directed to parking and signs will be posted to direct you to registration tables. Each district will have a table and someone from your district will be there to assist you., where you will receive your packet consisting of your program booklet, maps, notepad, shopping guides, and other goodies to assist you and enhance our theme, deposited into tote bags that can be recycled through Church Women United as health kits for the St. Gabriel Prison. We are looking forward to seeing many familiar faces as well as welcoming new faces. St. Timothy Church and North Shore District welcome you. I know you will be pleased and excited with the new and expanded facility that has just been completed and ready for us at St. Timothy on the Northshore United Methodist Church.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Stations will be located at several points where coffee, ice water, and perhaps snacks will be available. All restrooms will be clearly marked, hostesses will be available to assist you, and signs posted to identify areas. In the program will be a guide to the floor plan of the church. We want you to have a great time, and meeting.

Directions to: St. Timothy On The Northshore U.M.C.
335 Asbury Drive
Mandeville, LA
1-985-626-3307

From I-12 take exit 63A to Hwy. 190 E. Go south towards Mandeville.
Take the Hwy. 190E/LA-22 W exit towards Mandeville/Ponchatoula.
Keep left at the fork in the ramp.
Turn left onto Hwy. 190 E at the traffic light.
Get into the left lane.
Go through two more traffic lights.
Turn left at the next (third) traffic light.
You should pass between Whitney Bank on your left and Semolina's restaurant on your right.
St. Timothy on the Northshore is on the right.
We will have members of our UMM helping with parking and giving directions.
Maps will be available at the church with directions to each hotel.

PROGRAM

"I Am the Vine; You Are the Branches"
Scripture: John 15:1-11
highlighting; verse 5 and 11
Theme Hymn: "Lord, Speak to Me"

Friday Afternoon: **1:00 p.m.**

Musical Prelude
Processional of Conference Officers and District Presidents
Invocation — Catherine Hogue
Convening of the 28th Annual Meeting — Elouise Sanders
Affirming Our Purpose — Kathleen Thompson
Welcome
Theme Hymn — *"Lord, Speak to Me"*
Recognition of Visitors — Elouise Sanders
Presentation of Program — Jane Eubanks and Ella Mae Doyle
Lighting of Mission Candle — Jerry Lee and Ruth Butler
Hymn — *"I Need Thee Every Hour"*
Opening Meditation — Rev. Carol Richardson
Special Music

BREAK
****

Business Session

Mission Team Reports — Conference Officers
Report of the Committee on Nominations — Rita Parham
Election of Officers — Elouise Sanders
Psalter Psalm 80:1-19 — Sara Willis and Ida Griffin
UMW Sings — Annette Fortuna
Greeting from Jurisdiction — Pat Cob
Church Women United — Martha Boone
Project Leaders Reports
Service for Retiring Officers — Beverly Cox and Carol Landry

Friday Evening: **6:45 p.m.**

Banquet Program

Welcome — Ella Mae Doyle
Meditation — Bishop William Hutchinson
Solos — Kay Hutchinson
Words of Grace — Jane Eubanks
Dinner
Musical Presentation
Introduction of Speaker — Kathleen Conrad
Evening Message — Cheryl Hemmerle
Announcements — Pat Smith
Benediction — Rev. Brady Whitton

****

Saturday Morning: **8:30 a.m.**

UMW Sings — Annette Fortuna
Morning Worship — Rev. Darlene Moore-James
Pledge Service — Janette McCalman
Offertory Prayer/Offering — Janette McCalman
Morning Message — Cheryl Hemmerle
Report of Registration — Sue Doolittle
Special Mission Recognition — Elouise Sanders
Hymn — "Trust and Obey"
Installation of Officers — Delma Baker and Pat Lee
Invitation to 2002 Annual Meeting

BREAK
****

Special Music
Morning Prayer — Rev. Wanda Cosentino
Communion Meditation — Rev. James Mitchell
Holy Communion
Benediction — Rev. Grayson Watson
Postlude

HOUSING INFORMATION

HOLIDAY INN (Headquarters)
(From I-12 take Exit 63B to Hwy. 190W. Go north towards Covington. Get into left lane. Make a U-turn at the second traffic light. The hotel will be on your right.)
501 N. Hwy. 190 • Covington, LA • 1-985-893-3580

Room Rates:	Double:	$70.00	1-2 people
		$76.00	3-4 people

Daily Buffett Breakfast $5.25 - Menu Breakfast also Available
Rooms for September 13, 2001 available at this hotel only

BEST WESTERN NORTH PARK INN
(From I-12 take Exit 63B to Hwy. 190W. Go north towards Covington. Get into left lane. Go through two traffic lights. Turn left into the hotel at the next crossover.)
625 N. Hwy. 190 • Covington, LA • 1-985-892-2681

Room Rates:	Single	$57.00	1 person
		$63.00	2 people
	Double:	$66.00	1-2 people
		$ 6.00	each additional person

Complimentary Deluxe Continential Breakfast

SUPER 8 MOTEL
(From I-12 take Exit 63B to Hwy. 190W. Go north towards Covington. Get into left lane. Turn left at the second traffic light. The hotel is on the right just past the Waffle House.)
120 Holiday Blvd. • Covington, LA • 1-985-892-4470

Room Rates:	Double	$57.60	1 person
		$62.10	2 people
		$ 5.00	each additional person

Free Deluxe Continential Breakfast

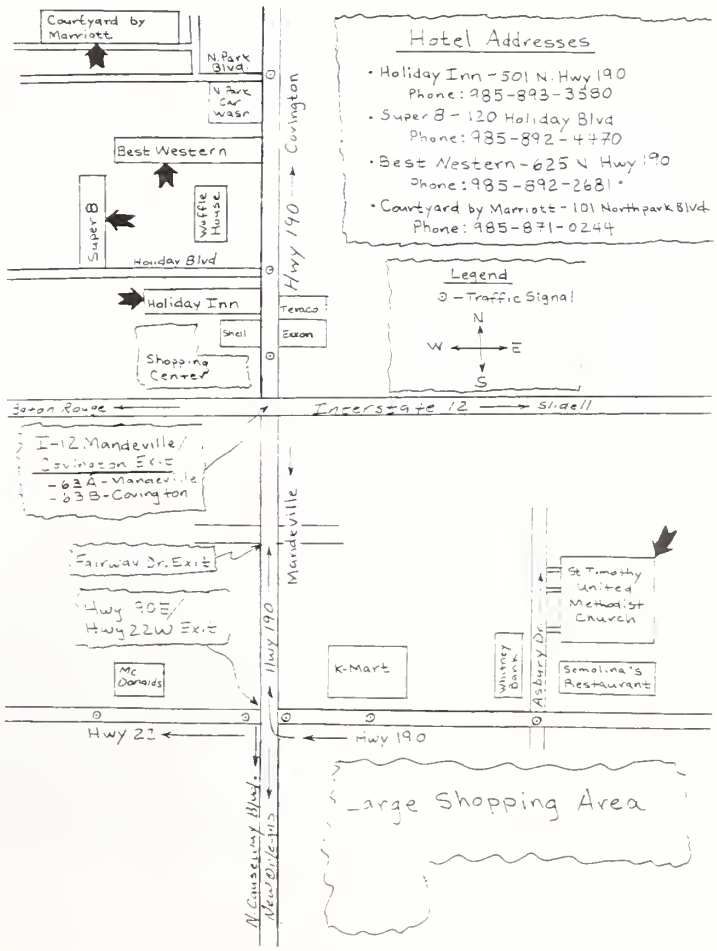
COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT
(From I-12 take Exit 63B to Hwy. 190W. Go north towards Covington. Get into left lane. Turn left at the third traffic light. Turn right at the first street. Turn left into the hotel.)
101 North Park Blvd. • Covington, LA • 1-985-871-0244

Room Rates:	Double	$89.00	1-4 people

Daily Buffett Breakfast $6.95 - Menu Breakfast also available

ALL ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 24, 2001
(Tell the reservation clerk you are with United Methodist Women)
Maps will be available at each motel with directions to the church.

If motels are full, the closest Motels will be at Exit 40 in Hammond, LA

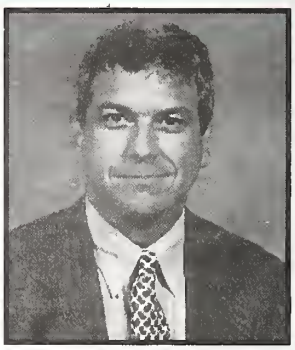


PROGRAM

GUEST SPEAKER
CHERYL A. HEMMERLE

CHERYL A. HEMMERLE is the executive secretary for young women for the Women's Division. She joined the Division in 1993. Cheryl has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion and Psychology from LaGrange College, GA and a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. She has worked as a director of Christian education and youth ministries in United Methodist churches in Georgia, South Carolina, and New York. In her current position since 1996, Cheryl has primary responsibility for developing and promoting membership, programs, leadership, and resources with teens and college/university women as well as training for adults working with these young women. Her portfolio was expanded in 1998 to include all young women under 40. Cheryl was first introduced to United Methodist Women while working in her first full-time church position. In 1986, at the age of 24, the local unit awarded her a Special Mission Recognition pin. That same year, she helped to start the Dorcas Circle for working women. Since then, she has been an active member, conference school study leader and local unit officer. Cheryl enjoys writing, music and creative expression through various art medium. She has recently developed an interest in hiking.

Host pastor at St. Timothy on the Northshore at Mandeville, LA is **REV. JAMES MITCHELL**. He is a native of Bossier City, received a B.A. degree from Northwestern State University and a Master of Divinity from the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. He has served as Associate Pastor at Westminister UMC in Westminister, CO, and First UMC in Monroe, and has pastored Berwick UMC, Zachary UMC. He has been the Senior Pastor at St. Timothy on the Northshore for the past 6½ years. He and his wife Delaine have one son, Patrick age 6.



REV. JAMES MITCHELL

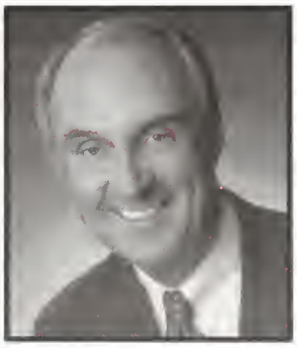
DR. GRAYSON WATSON

The North Shore District Superintendent is **DR. GRAYSON B. WATSON**. He and his wife Sally have two daughters. Rev. Watson received his B.A. degree from Centenary College, Master of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School, and Doctor of Divinity from Centenary College. He has served as The Associate Minister at Rayne Memorial, Arabi, Bastrop, Vice-President for Development at Centenary College; Winnfield, St. John B.R.; Lake Charles 1st; and Noel Memorial in Shreveport, before becoming the North Shore District Superintendent. He has participated in 3 construction/medical missions to Costa Rica and Honduras.

TILLIE SHOWS, the North Shore District President, is a Mississippi gulf coast native, became a WSCS member in 1955 in Pascagoula, MS. In 1969 the Shows family moved to Metairie. Tillie served as Circle Leader, Vice President, and President of UMW at St. Matthews UMC. She and her husband, Frank of 50 years, are parents of 4 daughters, 13 grandchildren and 4 greats. They are members of St. Timothy UMC. She serves on the District Church Extension Committee and Conference Board of Pensions. She has served as Treasurer, Vice President before becoming the North Shore District President.

TILLIE SHOWS

PERSONNEL



BISHOP WILLIAM HUTCHINSON is the presiding Bishop of the Louisiana Conference since 2000. He received his B.A. from the University of Oklahoma, a Master of Divinity from Duke University and a honorary Doctor of Divinity from McMurray University. He comes to us from the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation. He serves as President of the General Board of Church and Society. He and his wife Kay have two sons and one granddaughter.

BISHOP WILLIAM HUTCHINSON

REV. CAROL RICHARDSON

REV. CAROL RICHARDSON will bring us the opening meditation. Carol is presently serving Lee's Landing UMC for 3½ years. She has taught Bible for almost 30 years, served as pastor of James Chapel UMC for 6 years and has worked with Community Christian Concern in Slidell and Northshore Hospice as their bereavement coordinator and pastoral counselor. Carol is from South Texas and has attended Nicholls State, University of Southwestern La, San Jacinto College and Candler School of Theology at Emory in Atlanta. She and her husband have two grown adopted children who came from The Methodist Home Hospital in New Orleans and a year old grandson.

PASTOR DARLENE MOORE-JAMES will lead us in the morning devotional Saturday. She is a native of Mandeville, LA and Newell United Methodist Church. She is a graduate of Dillard University and Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta. She is the first female pastor of Hartzell-Mt. Zion UMC in Slidell, and has returned recently from her second Holy Land Jerusalem Pilgrimage. A well sought out speaker, workshop leader, author and illustrator. Pastor Moore James is the wife and mother of the Joshua's.

REV. DARLENE MOORE-JAMES

PAT SMITH
St. Timothy UMW President
Local Arrangements Chairperson

SUE DOOLITTLE
Co-Chairperson
Local Arrangements Committee

ANNETTE FORTUNA
Music Leader from
Aldersgate UMC in Slidell

ANNETTE will be leading 3 Spiritual Retreats this year, and was song leader for Regional School. She is married to the Rev. Dave Fortuna and they have two beautiful daughters.

DOROTHY "JACKIE" PENNINGTON - Pianist - lives in Covington, works with her husband, Walter, who is pastor of Grace UMC, and is a vocal and piano teacher. They have four children.

2001 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	$.62
1 MINUTE	$37.08
5 MINUTES	$185.42
1 HOUR	$2,225.05

The lighting of the **MISSION CANDLE** will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 14-15, 2001 at St. Timothy-on-the North Shore, Mandeville. The candle was first burned at the 1979 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women Organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the Tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present and future as women organized for mission. Units and individuals will want to be a part of this meaningful expression of our united commitment to a worldwide program of mission outreach.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY** or **IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. This goal can be realized if every unit gives 1 minute or more for the MISSION CANDLE. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift required. All monies are incorporated into each District's PLEDGE TO MISSION.

Please use this form to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the Form with your check to your District Treasurer by September first.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT - (If more space is needed, attach additional sheets. DO NOT write on back)

Individual/Unit submitting form:

Church: _____ District: _____

City: _____ Phone: ( ) _____

Given By: Name of Individual/Unit In HONOR of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Given By: Name of Individual/Unit In MEMORY of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____

Ribbons will again be available at Annual Meeting - All proceeds go toward our Conference Pledge to Mission.

Special Notice

A limited number of mission ribbons from past years are available for $1.00 each, for those who would like to fill out their collections. These will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last. The funds will be undesignated and will go toward meeting our pledge to mission for this year. You may write or call Jeanette McCalman, Conference Treasurer, to find out the availability of the ribbons you need. At that time, they will be set aside for you and held until Annual Meeting, or until you send your payment. Write to 715 W. Palmetto Ave., Plain Dealing, LA 71064, or call 318-326-5921. Or you may e-mail gjmccalman@juno.com.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE RETIRING OFFICERS

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of year to contribute to a **Special Offering** in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in United Methodist Women. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "Thank you" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will apply to your District's **PLEDGE TO MISSION.**

Your contributions in the past have been very generous. The retiring officers appreciate this acknowledgement of their service in mission. We know you will want to continue this fine tradition and participate in honoring those women who are retiring this year.

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their annual meetings in October and November.

A Different Kind of Tote...

The tote bag you will receive this year at Annual Meeting, will be "on loan" to you. Before you return home from the meeting, you will be asked to remove all your personal items, depositing the bag at the church.

The tote bags will be filled with health kits and recycled via Church Women United for the women in residence at St. Gabriel Prison. You can help further with this ministry; see the article below.

HEALTH KITS FOR ST. GABRIEL

If you would like to provide a health kit for the residents at St. Gabriel, the following items are needed:

Tissues	Washcloth
Toothbrush	Hairnet
Comb	Shower Cap
Plastic Hairbrush	Emery Boards
Sponge Rollers	Sewing Kit
Ladies Socks	Postage Stamps
Stationery	5 x 8 Notepad
Pens/Pencils	Greeting Cards

Place them in a zipper style food bag and bring them to the UMW Conference Annual Meeting at St. Timothy's on the North Shore in Mandeville, September 14-15, 2001.

If you would rather cover the cost of providing a kit, please bring a check to the Annual Meeting for $7.00, made payable to *Church Women United.*

For more information:

Beverly Cox, UMW, (985-796-8314)
Joyce Reed, CWU, (225-292-4763)

Please bring this copy of Standing Rules to our Annual Meeting.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDING RULES & GUIDELINES

Approved by the Executive Committee February 23, 2001

All 8 members of the Conference Committee on Standing Rules & Guidelines met on January 31, 2001 in Shreveport, in the home of Norma S. Winegeart, chairperson.

All of the Standing Rules and Guidelines have been revised and dated 2001. Many changes are using a different word, for clarification; and several have been re-arranged. Only major changes need to be voted upon.

STANDING RULES

An opening statement has been added:
The United Methodist Women of the Louisiana Conference shall function in accordance with the *Constitution & Bylaws, United Methodist Women 2001-2004 for Local, District, Conference and Jurisdiction Organizations.*
These Standing Rules are supplementary thereto.
Every unit shall own one copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws.*
It is recommended that every elected officer have a copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws* to be passed along to the succeeding officers.
Contents of the *Constitution & Bylaws* will NOT be repeated in the Standing Rules.

Location references to the *Constitution & Bylaws* and other resource materials are listed as needed.

Representation at Annual Meeting

Standing Rules, Local Units, 3, b reads: Members of each unit shall be determined according to the current Annual Report and Directory, unless corrections are given to the conference president sixty (60) days in advance of the annual meeting.

Delete: Annual Report and Directory / conference president.

Change to read: The number of members of each unit shall be determined according to the current report to the Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach, unless corrections are given to her sixty (60) days in advance of the annual meeting.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN IN THE DISTRICT

Delete: #1 and the last three sentences of #2. This information is in the *Constitution & Bylaws.* (Audit & elections)

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN IN THE CONFERENCE

Committees, 6, - **Standing Rules & Guidelines**

ADD: The president shall serve as an ex-officio member.

Committees – **Committee on Place of Annual Meeting**

Delete: Whenever possible, the committee shall alternate the meetings among the geographical areas of the conference.

ADD: Annual Meetings shall be held in districts using the following rotation plan:

1) North Shore (2001)
2) Alexandria (2002)
3) Shreveport (2003)
4) Acadiana (2004)
5) Monroe (2005)
6) New Orleans (2006)
7) Ruston (2007)
8) Baton Rouge (2008)
9) Lake Charles (2009)

ELECTIONS

ADD:

4. Officers elected at annual meeting held in the fall of an odd numbered year, to begin serving in an even numbered year are: president, secretary, coordinators for social action, education and interpretation, membership nurture and outreach, secretary of program resources and communications coordinator.
5. Officers elected at annual meeting held in the fall of an even numbered year, to begin serving in an odd numbered year are: vice president, treasurer, coordinator for spiritual growth and chairperson of committee on nominations.

ANNUAL MEETING (Representation at Annual Meeting)

Same as Standing Rules, Local Units, 3, b:

Delete: Annual Report and Directory and conference president.

Add: reports to the conference coordinator for membership nurture and outreach and her.

LEADERSHIP

Reworded as follows:

3. According to the *Constitution & Bylaws* (Article II, Sec. 9, d, p. 34) the **Communications Coordinator** shall serve as the **editor** of the conference Newsletter.

a. In the event the Communications Coordinator is unable to serve as editor of the conference *Newsletter*, an editor shall be appointed by the conference president on a two (2) year basis, approved by the Executive Committee.

SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITIONS, GIFTS, MEMORIALS

DELETE: diaconal ministry

ADD: Add to 1 – commissioned as a deaconess to those to be honored with a $30 SMRP.

ADD: Add to 5 – or a former conference president to Gift in Memory of $50.

Respectfully submitted,
Norma A. Winegeart, Chairperson

Standing Rules of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Revised and Adopted September 14, 2001

The United Methodist Women of the Louisiana Conference shall function in accordance with the *Constitution & Bylaws, United Methodist Women 2001-2004 for Local, District, Conference and Jurisdiction Organizations.*

These Standing Rules are supplementory thereto.
Every unit shall own one copy of the *Constitution & Bylows.*
It is recommended that every elected officer hove o copy of the *Constitution & Bylows* to be passed along to the succeeding officers.
Contents of the *Constitution & Bylaws* will NOT be repeated in the Standing Rules.

LOCAL UNITS (*Canstitution & Bylaws, pp. 3-12)*

1. A new unit may be officially reported when a quarterly report has been sent by the treasurer of the new unit to the district treasurer.
2. Support for projects which are the financial responsibility of the church-at-large should be as individual members of the church rather than through the treasuries of United Methodist Women.
3. a. Local units shall be represented at the annual meeting of the conference organization on the basis of one delegate for each one hundred (100) members, or a major fraction thereof, provided every unit, regardless of size, shall be entitled to at least one delegate.
   b. Members of each unit shall be determined according to the current report to the Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach, unless corrections are given to her sixty (60) days in advance of the annual meeting.
4. Local units shall be represented at the annual meeting of the district organization on the basis of one delegate for each twenty-five (25) members, or major fraction thereof, provided each unit, regardless of size, shall be entitled to at least one delegate.
5. Elections shall be held in September, and those elected shall assume their duties January 1 of the following year. The time between the election of officers and the assumption of their duties shall be a time of training during which the newly elected officers will work with the retiring officers.
6. In the event of the death of the treasurer of the local unit, or the inability of the treasurer to discharge the duties of that office, the president of the unit shall be authorized and empowered by the Adm.nistrative Committee (or the Executive Committee if there is no Administrative Committee) to draw and sign checks on behalf of the unit.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN IN THE DISTRICT (C&B pp. 13-26)

1. District elections shall take place annually.
2. Those elected assume their duties on January 1 following the election. The time between the election of officers and the assumption of their duties shall be a time of training during which the newly elected officers will work with the retiring officers.
3. Thirty (30) days before the annual meeting of the district organization, each local unit shall be sent information for the meeting and the list of nominees for elected leadership in the district organization.
4. Local units shall be represented at the annual meeting of the district organization on the basis of one delegate for each twenty-five (25) members, or major fraction thereof, provided every unit, regardless of size, shall be entitled to at least one delegate.
5. The voting membership at an annual meeting of the district organization shall be the delegates from the local units and the members of the Executive Committees of the district and conference organizations.
6. Subdistricts
   a. A district may be divided into subdistricts to facilitate the work of the United Methodist Women within the district. A subdistrict leader shall be elected as part of the district elected leadership.
   b. If a subdistrict meeting is held, the District Executive Committee shall assist the subdistrict leader in determining program emphasis for the meeting.
   c. If an offering is taken at a subdistrict meeting, expenses, excluding refreshments and/or flowers, may be deducted before remittance is made to the district treasurer.
   d. The duties of the subdistrict leader shall be to:
      - Maintain contact, both personally and other ways of communication, with the units in her subdistrict.
      - Publicize all activities of the district;
      - Assist in organizing new units, in reactivating units which have ceased to function, and in assisting units where help is needed;
      - Preside over any subdistrict meetings which may be held.
7. In the event of the death of the treasurer of the district organization, or the inability of the treasurer to discharge the duties of that office, the president of the district organization shall be authorized and empowered by the Administrative Committee to draw and sign checks of the district organization.
8. The district Committee on Program may work with the local Committee on Program in the development of programs and activities which are integral to the Purpose.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN IN THE CONFERENCE (C&B pp. 27-41)

FUNDS

(C&B, Article VII, p. 41)

1. United Methodist Women shall support projects which are the financial responsibility of the church-at-large as individual church members rather than through the treasuries of the organized units of United Methodist Women.
2. Expenses for all members attending any authorized meeting of a standing committee or task group shall be paid by the conference, unless expenses are otherwise provided.
3. a. Members of the conference Executive Committee shall receive expenses for attendance at meetings of that committee and the annual meeting of the conference organization according to *Guidelines* approved by the Executive Committee.
   b. Each officer shall receive expenses for promoting the work of her office.
   c. All expense vouchers shall include itemized listings, with receipts of expenses (postage, duplicating, motel, etc.) for which payment is requested. Reimbursement for travel shall be based on *Expense Guidelines*. Vouchers shall be approved and signed by the conference president and secretary.
   d. Duplicating letters or other materials in quantity shall be done, after investigation, at the least expense appropriate to the purpose for which the materials are to be used.
4. The conference organization may set aside an amount for administration and membership development expenses of the conference; a contribution to the jurisdiction fund for administration and membership development; for remittances to the districts for administration and membership development; and for Church Women United. The exact amount of the fund to be set aside shall be decided annually by the Executive Committee on recommendation from the Committee on Finance.
5. At the end of the calendar year, the district treasurer must account to the conference treasurer for the use of administration and membership development funds received, and the balance on hand. Each district shall be allowed to retain a portion of their administration and membership development funds as an advance toward the next year's budget. Any amount in excess shall be returned to the conference treasurer clearly marked as unused administration and membership development funds.
6. Each district shall be allowed monies for sending representatives to Assembly. Funds are to be determined by the Committee on Finance and held by the conference treasurer with other accumulating funds and returned to each district at the appropriate time. Representation shall be determined by the District Executive Committee. If no representative from the district attends, funds shall be returned to the conference treasurer.

COMMITTEES

(C&B, Article III, pp. 34-35; Article IV, pp. 35-38)

1. Those persons listed in the Constitution & Bylaws, 2001-2004, shall be members of the **Conference Executive Committee**.
   a. In addition, the following persons shall be members of the Conference Executive Committee: the historian; editor; chairpersons of standing committees; and the spouse of the bishop, who shall be an honorary vice-president.
2. **Chairpersons of task groups** shall be members of the **Committee on Program**.
3. a. Each **standing committee and task group** shall be allowed one meeting a year, in addition to those meetings which can be held in conjunction with a larger group meeting, such as the Executive Committee.
   b. If a committee or task group needs more than one additional meeting (as described above), the meeting shall be approved by the Administrative Committee.
4. The **Conference Committee on Membership** shall include those persons listed in the Constitution & Bylaws and in addition, the chairpersons of the nine district Committees on Membership.
5. **Conference Committee on Nominations**.
   a. Conference Committee on Nominations shall be composed of nine (9) persons, including the chairperson.
   b. The chairperson shall be elected by the conference organization for a term of two years during her four year term.
   c. A person filling an unexpired term on the Committee on Nominations shall rotate off the committee with the class of her predecessor, regardless of length of time served.
   d. In addition to functions listed in the Constitution & Bylaws, the Conference Committee on Nominations shall keep an accurate and up-to-date file on prospective elected leaders. The file should include, as a minimum, qualifications and skills of each person in the file; offices (if any) previously held, especially in the district and/or conference organizations, length of time served, tenure used and tenure remaining.
   e. Persons elected to the Committee on Nominations shall attend:
      1). Leadership Training Event within the calendar year elected, at Division expense.
      2). Mid-year Executive Committee meeting at Conference expense.
   f. The Committee shall meet semi-annually, as well as on call of the chairperson. A member missing two committee meetings in a year, without having been excused by the chairperson, shall be notified by the chairperson that she will be replaced on the committee.
6. There shall be a **Committee on Standing Rules and Guidelines**, for a two year term, composed of seven (7) persons who shall be appointed by the president and approved by the Executive Committee. The president shall name the chairperson. The president shall serve as an ex-officio member.
   The functions of the committee shall be to:

a. Review and edit the standing rules and recommend amendments in keeping with new legislation and terminology adopted by Women's Division and in keeping with conference needs.
b. Draft statements on standing rules changes referred to it by the Executive Committee.
c. Interpret, upon request, the meaning and intent of bylaws and standing rules.
d. Prepare copies of proposed amendments to the standing rules for distribution to the annual meeting.
e. Provide a copy of the approved amendments to the secretary for inclusion in the records of the conference organization.
f. Draft resolutions which may be referred to the committee, in the interest of facilitating the work of the conference organization.
g. Review all guidelines and make recommendations to the Conference Executive Committee.

7. There shall be a **Committee on Annual Report and Directary** composed of the secretary, who serves as chairperson, the president, and the treasurer.
   a. Other persons needed to facilitate the work of the committee may be appointed by the president in consultation with the secretary.
   b. The committee shall edit and publish the Annual Report and Directory, as determined by the Executive Committee.
8. There shall be a **Committee on the Place of Annual Meeting** composed of three (3) persons, whose chairperson shall be a conference officer. The president shall appoint the members of the committee and name the chairperson.
   a. Annual Meetings shall be held in districts using the following rotation plan:
      1) North Shore (2001)
      2) Alexandria (2002)
      3) Shreveport (2003)
      4) Acadiana (2004)
      5) Monroe (2005)
      6) New Orleans (2006)
      7) Ruston (2007)
      8) Baton Rouge (2008)
      9) Lake Charles (2009)
   b. The committee shall select a suitable place within the designated district and report the availability one year in advance to the Executive Committee.

ELECTIONS (C&B, Article V, pp. 38-40)
(The Book of Discipline,2000, par. 341,343)

1. Elections shall take place annually in the Annual Meeting of the conference organization. Officers shall be elected for a two (2) year term. There shall be opportunity for nominations from the floor by a duly registered delegate.
   When nominations from the floor occur, the election must be postponed until later in the meeting to allow time for the Committee on Nominations to confer with the nominee. Elections for other offices may proceed or be postponed until all offices are voted on. It is the responsibility of the Committee on Nominations to verify the tenure eligibility of the nominee. The election should not proceed until this is done and the job description has been reviewed with the nominee. If the nominee is not present, the committee should verify that this has been done.
2. Elections shall be by ballot, except when there is only one nominee for an office the election may be by voice vote. A majority vote shall constitute election.
3. Those elected shall assume their duties on January 1 following the election. The time between the election of officers and the assumption of their duties shall be a time of training during which the newly elected officers will work with the retiring officers.
4. Officers elected at annual meeting held in the fall of an odd numbered year, to begin serving in an even numbered year are: president, secretary, coordinators for social action, education and interpretation, membership nurture & outreach and secretary of program resources.
5. Officers elected at annual meeting held in the fall of an even numbered year, to begin serving in an odd numbered year are: vice president, treasurer, coordinator for spiritual growth, and chairperson of committee on nominations.

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION
(C&B Article IV, Sec. 5, pp. 37-38; Article VI, Sec. 2, p. 40)
(School of Christian Mission Guidelines)
(Expense Guidelines)

1. The Dean and the Assistant Dean shall be elected for two (2) years at a School of Christian Mission planning meeting by and from the current committee. They shall attend training provided by Women's Division. They shall alternate positions the second year.
2. The conference treasurer shall be the registrar.
3. All conference elected leaders, conference and School of Christian Mission appointed leaders, district presidents and district treasurers are expected to attend the School of Christian Mission at conference expense.
4. A subsidy to be determined by the Committee on Finance shall be paid for: each district vice president, secretary, the four mission coordinators, program resources, chair ot committee on nominations, communications and subdistrict chairpersons who FULLY PARTICIPATE in the School of Christian Mission.
5. A sufficient amount, determined by the Committee on Finance, shall be allowed annually for the purchase of audiovisual resources pertinent to the current studies and mission emphases. These materials shall be selected by the Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation in consultation with the Dean of the School of Christian Mission and shall be placed in the Audio-Visual Library of the Conference Council on Ministries for use throughout the Conference.
6. West Gulf Regional School.
   a. The pattern of attendance includes elected leaders of Conference United Methodist Women, Dean and Assistant Dean of Conference School, and Conference Study Group Leaders who attend as a partial satisfaction of certification requirements.
   b. ALL shall travel in car pools or accept pro rata payment on other travel arrangements, unless granted prior approval by Conference Administrative Committee.

ANNUAL MEETING (C&B, Article VI, p. 40)
(Book of Discipline,2000, par. 644.6a)

1. Each local unit shall receive registration forms, the list of nominees for elected leadership and any major changes recommended in Standing Rules thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.
2. Representation:
   a. Local units shall be represented at the annual meeting of the conference organization on the basis of one delegate for each one hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof, provided every unit, regardless of size, shall be entitled to at least one delegate.
   b. Membership of each local unit will be determined according to the current reports to the conference coordinator for membership nurture and outreach, unless corrections are sent to her sixty (60) days prior to annual meeting.
3. The voting membership at an annual meeting shall be composed of the following persons: members of the Executive Committee, delegates from the local units, district elected officers, spouse of the resident bishop, and presidents of all predecessor organizations.
4. The **Committee on Program** shall recommend to the Executive Committee, at the time of the School of Christian Mission, the **chairperson for the Task Group an Annual Meeting Program** for the ensuing year.

DISTRICT ELECTED LEADERS TRAINING
(C&B Article III, b, 4), p. 35)

1. There shall be a conference-wide training event with conference leadership training district counterparts.
2. Retiring officers shall conduct DELT and may be assisted by the newly elected officers.
3. This event shall be funded by the conference.

LEADERSHIP (C&B Article II, Sec. 10, p. 34)

1. There shall be a conference **Historian** to be appointed by the president on a two (2) year basis and confirmed by the Executive Committee.
2. **Treasurer.**
   a. The time between the election of the treasurer and the assumption of her duties shall be a time of training which she shall work with the retiring treasurer, especially in preparing the fourth quarterly report. The treasurer-elect shall attend all Finance and Executive Committee meetings and training events occurring during the interim period.
   b. In the event of the death of the treasurer of the conference organization or the disability of the treasurer to the extent that she is unable to discharge the duties of that office, the president of the conference organization shall be authorized and empowered to draw and sign checks on behalf of said organization.
3. According to the Constitution & Bylaws (Article II, Sec. 9, d, p. 34) the **Communications Coordinator** shall serve as **editor** of the conference Newsletter.
   a. In the event the Communications Coordinator is unable to serve as editor of the conference *Newsletter*, an editor shall be appointed by the conference president on a two (2) year basis, approved by the Executive Committee.
      1). The duties of the editor shall be:
      - to edit the conference *Newsletter* in consultation with the Communications Coordinator;
      - to serve as liaison person with the printer and be responsible for having the paper mailed to all designated persons;
      - if the editor is not the Communications Coordinator, she shall serve on the Executive Committee.

SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITIONS, GIFTS, MEMORIALS
(C&B Article VII, Sec. 3, p. 41)

1. When women from the Louisiana Conference are ordained as deacons in the Annual Conference, they shall be honored with a thirty dollar ($30) Special Mission Recognition pin. When women from the Louisiana Conference are commissioned as long or short-term missionaries or as a deaconess, by the General Board of Global Ministries, they shall be honored with a thirty dollar ($30) Special Mission Recognition pin.
2. Retired missionaries and deaconesses residing within the Conference may attend Annual Meeting and School of Christian Mission at Conference expense, which includes housing and travel according to expense guidelines.

3. Each year the president may select, in consultation with the Administrative Committee, a person to be the recipient of a one hundred dollar ($100) Special Mission Recognition pin; the presentation to be made at the session of the Annual Conference.
4. Upon election, women from Louisiana Conference who serve as a director of Women's Division or an officer of the South Central Jurisdiction UMW shall be honored at Annual Meeting with a Gift to Mission.
5. When death occurs among members of the Executive Committee, or a former conference president, a Gift in Memory of fifty ($50) shall be sent to Women's Division. When death occurs to members of their immediate families, or to relatives living in their homes, a Gift in Memory of twenty-five ($25) will be sent as a memorial.

NOMINATING PROCEDURES

(C&B Article V, Sec. 3,4,5 p. 40)
(Book of Discipline,2000, par. 644.6c, 644.6d, 533.3, 533.4)

1. Each quadrennium, at the invitation of the Women's Division, a representative of the conference United Methodist Women will be granted the opportunity to attend one meeting of the Women's Division at Division expense. Election of this representative shall be made by the Executive Committee.
2. Conference representatives to the quadrennial Assembly shall be conference elected officers who can attend. The monies designated shall be divided equally among those who attend.
3. Nominees and alternates as directors to the Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, shall be nominated as follows:
   a. The Conference Committee on Nominations shall be the nominating body.
   b. Names of Nominees and alternates shall be published in the Conference *Newsletter* prior to Annual Meeting.
   c. Nominations shall be presented to the Annual Meeting for election.
   d. Nominations may be made from the floor of Annual Meeting, with consent of the nominee.
4. Procedures for nominating delegates and alternates to the jurisdiction quadrennial meeting of United Methodist Women shall be as follows:
   a. The Conference Executive Committee shall be the nominating body.
   b. Names of Nominees shall be published in the Conference *Newsletter* prior to Annual Meeting.
   c. Nominations shall be presented to the Annual Meeting for election.
   d. Nominations may be made from the floor of the Annual Meeting.

AMENDING, DELETING, OR ADDING STANDING RULES

(C&B Article VIII, p. 41)

1. Standing Rules may be amended, or new Standing Rules adopted by majority vote at any Annual Meeting of the conference organization. Such changes shall be approved by the Executive Committee and published in the Conference *Newsletter* thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

RESOLUTION

1. In order to qualify for a mailing permit in the name of the United Methodist Women, Louisiana Conference, the following RESOLUTION was approved by the Executive Committee of the conference organization, February, 1978:

   Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, the following RESOLUTON modifying the Bylaws of the Corporation (Conference Organization) was adopted by the Board of Directors (Executive Committee), to wit:

   "Be it resolved that the Bylaws of the United Methodist Women, Louisiana Conference, The United Methodist Church, be, and they are hereby, amended to provide that any and all net assets remaining after the liquidation or dissolution of the corporation (Conference Organization), shall be transferred and delivered as soon as practicable to such charitable, religious, educational, or other eleemosynary institutions of this corporation (Conference Organization), provided that the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Section 501, or such similar provision as shall then be in force."

   a. Mailing permit shall be obtained by editor of conference *Newsletter*.

October 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WEEK 1 *INTERECEDE WITH PRAYER*	*1* *Pray for peace* *Psalm 122:6*	*2* *I will save those who serve me* *Isaiah 65:8*	*3* *Pray for us...* *Hebrews 13:18*	*4* *...offer up Intercession for all in Authority* *I Timothy 2:1*	*5* *...pray for them in the name of the Lord* *James 5:14*	*6* *Pray always for all God's People* *Ephesians 6:18*
7 *WEEK 2* *PRAY WITH PRAISE*	*8* *...give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness* *Psalm 30:4*	*9* *...be glad in the Lord, and rejoice...* *Psalm 32:11*	*10* *I will praise thee* *Psalm 35:18*	*11* *Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised* *Psalm 48:1*	*12* *So will I sing praise unto thy name...* *Psalm 61:8*	*13* *Make a joyful noise unto God...* *Psalm 66:1*
14 *WEEK 3* *PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS*	*15* *I have sinned...I have disobeyed* *I Samuel 15:24*	*16* *For our sins are many before thee...* *Isaiah 59:12*	*17* *...they shall confess their sins...* *Numbers 5:7*	*18* *I have gone astray like a lost sheep;* *Psalm 119:176*	*19* *Confess your sins and give them up;* *Proverbs 28:13*	*20* *...by Him all that believe are justified...* *Acts 13:39*
21 *WEEK 4* *PRAY WITH COMPASSION*	*22* *Whatever you did for one of these...you did for me* *Matthew 25:40*	*23* *I came that they may have life more abundant* *John 10:10*	*24* *I am the light of the world...* *John 8:12*	*25* *...press on toward the goal* *Philippians 3:13-14*	*26* *Be merciful, as your Father is merciful...* *Luke 6:36*	*27* *...all things work together for good...* *Romans 8:28*
28 *WEEK 5* *PRAY WITH THANKS*	*29* *We give thanks to God* *Colossians 1:3*	*30* *Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name* *Psalm 100:4*	*31* *It is good to give Thanks unto the Lord..* *Psalm 92:1*			

31-DERFUL WAYS TO SAY THANKS

DAY 1. There are congregations that have no sanctuary in which to meet.. Give **2 cents** for each Christian church in your community.

DAY 2. Poverty is the main cause of death among children in the developing world. Give **25 cents** to help fund a nutrition program for homeless children in Lubumbashi area of Congo.

DAY 3. Recycling helps to protect our environment. Give **2 cents** for each aluminum can you recycle today and tomorrow.

DAY 4. Labeling of genetically-altered vegetables is not required in the United States. Give **3 cents** for each helping of vegetables you ate today.

DAY 5. Many veterans came home from Vietnam with injuries that are debilitating. Give **5 cents** for each son, husband, brother or father you had serving in Vietnam, Cambodia or Laos.

DAY 6. Excess calories, fat, salt and sugar are claiming the lives of 300,000 persons in our country each year. Give **10 cents** for each piece of fruit you eat today.

DAY 7. Education is the main means of empowering women in today's world. Give **10 cents** if you have earned your high school diploma.

DAY 8. Deaconesses and Missionaries dedicated their work to God's people. Give **2 cents** for each retired Deaconess and Missionary living in Louisiana. Look in the Prayer Calendar.

DAY 9. 400,000 people die in the United States every year as a direct result of tobacco. Give **5 cents** if you have never smoked, **10 cents** if you did and have quit, and **15 cents** if you smoke now.

DAY 10. Many clinics and hospitals do not have enough medicines available on a regular basis. Help supply a Medicine Box by giving **1 cent** for each over-the-counter drug in your home and **2 cents** for each prescription drug.

DAY 11. Shalom can be difficult to experience if we have too much stress in our lives. Give **3 cents** for each time you laugh out loud today.

DAY 12. Life is a precious gift from God. Give **25 cents** for each baby born into your family in 2001. Give **5 cents** for each baby born into your church family in 2001.

DAY 13. Many of the Women in the Bible were not named. Give **1 cent** for each un-named woman, you can recall, who made a difference.

DAY 14. Members of Wauwatosa Ave. Church in Wisconsin were able to get 100 people out for a new worship service by making phone calls. Give **2 cents** for each person you have called this week to come to church. Give **10 cents** if you have called no one.

DAY15. Seniors needing care from family members or others are on the increase. Give **5 cents** if you are a care-giver or if you give care to a care-giver.

DAY 16. Exercise greatly improves the quality of life. Give **10 cents** if you exercised today and **15 cents** if you did not.

DAY 17. More grandparents than ever are parenting and co-parenting kids. Give **5 cents** for each grand-child you have helped raise.

DAY 18. The web is making it more convenient to keep in touch with church family, events and organizations. Give **25 cents** if you have a computer.

DAY 19. Stewardship/Tithing are a major way of returning to God a part of that with which he has blessed us. Give **10 cents** if you participated in or responded to your church's stewardship campaign.

DAY 20. The Church Health Center of Memphis, TN., serves 31,000 working poor in Memphis. Give **5 cents** if you must see a doctor this month.

DAY 21. Television can encourage violence, self-indulgence and consumerism, or it can communicate truth and humane values. Give **10 cents** for each TV set in your home.

DAY 22. VIM (Volunteers in Mission) has grown to 85,000 volunteers since 1970. If you have been a volunteer in your community this month, give **10 cents.**

DAY 23. Jesus treated women with dignity, calling them to spread the word. If you have a leadership roll in your church, give **10 cents.**

DAY 24. Listening to familiar music can evoke good feelings. Give **5 cents** for each time you found yourself humming today.

DAY 25. The more friends you have, the longer you will live. Give **5 cents** for each friend with whom you talked today.

DAY 26. Welfare Reform has sent many women into the work place with inadequate wardrobes. Give **5 cents** if your church has a Clothes Closet Ministry. Give **10 cents** if it does not.

DAY 27. God intended for us to be caretakers of the world he gave us. Give **2 cents** for each tree in your yard.

DAY 28. The Bible has been translated into numerous languages. Give **5 cents** for each different version you have in your home.

DAY 29. Music enhances traditional and contemporary worship services. Give **5 cents** for each keyboard, piano or organ in your church property.

DAY 30. In Bible times, people opened their home to travelers. Today we stay at commercial inns. Give **5 cents** for each night you spent in a motel or inn during your vacation this year.

DAY 31. United Methodist Women membership drive has been concentrating on teen and college women. Many of the current members joined when they were teens, college age or young mothers. Give **1 cent** for each year you have been a member of the work of women through the Women's Society of Christian Service, Women's Guild or UMW.

REGISTRATION FORM

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
ANNUAL MEETING
September 14 - 15, 2001

St. Timothy on the Northshore United Methodist Church
335 Asbury Drive, Mandeville, LA 70741
(985) 626-3307 www.sttimothyunc.org

Send Registration to: Jeanette McCalman
715 West Palmetto Avenue
Plain Dealing, LA 71064
(318) 326-5921
gjmccalman@juno.com

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW

Pre-registration fee	$7.50
On-site registration	$10.00
Banquet Fee	$15.00

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____

Phone: ( )_____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

[ ] Conference Office - Specify_____

[ ] Conference Executive Committee_____

[ ] District Office - Specify_____

[ ] Local Unit Member [ ] Voting Delegate

[ ] Former Conference President or Guild Secretary

[ ] Guest

MEALS: Friday Banquet ($15.00)
(Include with registration fee-See "More about Annual Meeting")

[ ] Friday Lunch [ ] Saturday Breakfast [ ] Saturday Lunch

Church_____

City_____ District_____

Number in local unit_____

Where will you be staying during the meeting?_____

_____

Will child care be needed?_____

Ages of children_____ (No older then 10)

NOTE: Registration fee includes the cost of insurance from the time of departure for the meeting until return home, registration packet, and a small part of expense of meeting. (If you plan to attend the banquet on Friday night, money must be included with registration.)

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION

September 1, 2001

D.E.L.T.

October 13, 2001

"I Am The Vine, We Are The Branches Bearing Fruit"

Conference Center

For all elected district and conference officers

Muriel Miller
Chairperson

Evelyn Evans
Co-Chairperson

Congratulations

Gennith Johnson, a student at Hampton University and a member of Bethany UMC in New Orleans has been named to the Women's Division's College Women Consultative Group for the period of 2001 - 2003.

Personnel Office to Open During SCM and Annual Meeting

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women announces that Personnel Office hours will be available during the Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission, and Conference Annual Meeting. Hours will be posted.

Talent Bank applications will be available and assistance for members who wish to make a Talent Bank Deposit will be provided. Current officer Talent Bank forms will be updated.

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women invite you to accept a leadership role in an organization with an outstanding reputation for work on local, national and International stages of mission in the United Methodist Church.

All positions require technicolor vision and creativity in expanding concepts of mission, participation in local, connectional activities and meetings of the organization, district, conference, jurisdiction, and national as appropriate.

Leadership training and travel opportunities also available.

2002 Slate of Nominations Announced

Nominated for a two year term: 2002-2003

President:

Lueberda J. Myers (S)
333 Holcomb Dr., Shreveport 71103 Mail: P.O. Box 36797 (71133)
318-221-7657; 222-6839 Fax; 866-0766 P E-mail: LJMyers@msn.com

Secretary:

Frances Patton (M)
407 Gregory St., Vidalia 71373 318-336-5452 E-mail: fpatton@aol.com

Education and Interpretation:

Carolyn Colvin (S)
4727 Golbert Dr., Shreveport 71106
318-868-2870 E-mail: cmcolvin@bellsouth.net

Membership Nurture and Outreach:

Josephine "Jo" Traweek (M)
110 Pinewood Dr., West Monroe 71291 318-396-1319

Secretary of Program Resources:

Shirley Jacocks (NS)
616 Jodi Dr., Hammond 70403 504-345-1658

Communications Coordinator:

Brenda Canty (BR)
3509 N. 38th St., Baton Rouge 70805
225-356-7615; 272-5986W; 272-3782 Fax

Member,
Charter for Racial Justice Committee:
Evelyn Hoffman (LC)
1613 Sarah Dr., Lake Charles 70605 337-477-7477

Committee on Nominations - Class of 2005

Donna Law (S)
3541 E. Lake St., Shreveport 71105 318-869-3790

Cheryl Milburn (A)
109 Angie Lane, Opelousas 70570 337-948-4837

Position Still Under Consideration and To Be Announced:

Member, Charter for Racial Justice -
One Position

Respectfully Submitted,
Rita M. Parham, Chairperson

Calendar of Events

September 13	Conference Executive Committee
14-15	Conference Annual Meeting, St. Timothy's on the North Shore, Mandeville
October 13	DELT, Conference Center
November	School Committee, Program Committee, Conference Center

2002

February 8-9	Midyear
July 24-28	School of Christian Mission
October 12	DELT

2001
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	November 3	Trinity, Baldwin
Alexandria	September 29	FUMC, Natchitoches
Baton Rouge	November 3	Jefferson UMC, Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	October 27	University, Lake Charles
Monroe	October 6	FUMC, Bastrop
New Orleans	October 27	St. Matthews, Metairie
North Shore	November 3	Centenary UMC, Franklinton
Ruston	October 20	Trinity UMC, Ruston
Shreveport	October 21	Noel, Shreveport

SING A NEW SONG

Come Sing a New Song with 10,000 Women!

On April 25-26, 2002, more than 10,000 women will gather together at the 16th quadrennial Assembly of United Methodist Women at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to SING A NEW SONG.
Join us for a time of worship music, prayer, Bible studies, discernment, mission stories, focus groups, and the sharing of songs. For more information, see the Assembly website at http://gbgmumc.org/umw/assembly or contact your Conference President after June 15, 2001.
For a registration packet, fill out the information below!

Yes! Please send me a registration packet for the 2002 Assembly of United Methodist Women!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

No. of packets requested: _____

Please send flyer for promotion: _____

ACT NOW!
Send this form to:
Assembly Business Office, 7820 Reading Road, Caller 1800, Cincinnati, OH 45222-1800
Completed registrations must be in the Assembly Office by March 8, 2002.
Conference block room requests are due January 8, 2002

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Mrs. Nancy M. Carruth
P.O. Box 267
Bunkie, LA 71322

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Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXV No. 1 January 2002

The Gavel Passes

Lueburda Jamison Myers

As the United Methodist Women prepare for the 2002 Assembly in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Sing A New Song, songs of faith, hope, struggle, love, justice and joy, the Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women will start its 2002 year with new songs of leadership and commitment.

On Friday, September 14-15, 2001, at the LA Conference UMW's Annual Meeting, new songs of commitment to lead UMW were sung in the beautiful St. Timothy United Methodist Church of the North Shore District. Elouise Sanders ended four years of distinguished service as President when she passed the gavel to Lueberda Myers. Lueberda J. Myers was installed as the new Conference President, singing her pledge song to serve the present age, her calling to fulfill; O may it all her power engage to do her Master's will.

Lueberda is a native of Napoleonville, LA. She is married to Kenneth Myers and they have two adult sons and six grandchildren. She is a retired teacher from Caddo Parish Public Schools, and is currently employed by the City of Shreveport Parks and Recreation Department as Superintendent of Recreation and Promotions.

Lueberda is a member of St. Paul UMC, where she serves as Lay Leader and is a Certified Lay Speaker. She initiated and coordinates the St. Paul's Academic Recognition for students in the community. Her family donates all incentives and awards for the children.

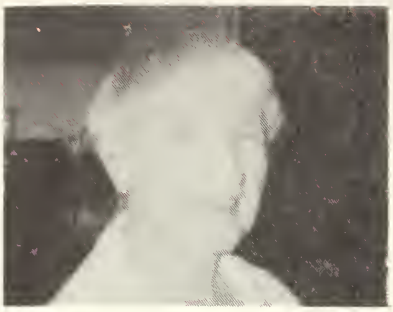
Lueberda's United Methodist Women experience began with the Wesleyan Service Guild, where she served as President of her local unit. She has served on the Shreveport District as Chairperson on the Committee on Nominations and Secretary of Program Resources. On the South Central Jurisdiction, Luebera has been the LA Conference Representative to the West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission and later was elected as the Core Planning Group Secretary for the 1988-92 Quadrennium. Lueberda has attended the National Seminar, the Women's Assembly, the 1993 Global Gathering, and the 1992 General Conference. She has served the Annual Conference on the Episcopacy Committee and the Committee on Special Ministries. In the Name of Jesus Christ, we WELCOME Lueberda and look forward to her leadership of our Conference United Methodist Women and pledge our whole hearted support in this endeavor!

Special points of Interest:

- UMW Sunday
- UMW Tee-Shirt Order
- School of Mission time change
- The Classified

Welcome to the new look of the LA Conference UMW's Newsletter. We hope to provide news that will keep you well informed of our mission as United Methodist Women. This newsletter is a publication of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women.

Meet The New UMW Conference Leadership for 2002



Jo Traweek

Betty Carlin

Joining the new leadership choir will be Josephine "Jo" Traweek as Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator. Jo will be singing that very important tune all year—*Many Gifts, One Spirit* as she nurtures the diverse group of 10,000 women of the LA Conference and gives leadership in recruiting and retaining members. Jo is the past President of the Monroe District and will be serving as a Study Leader in the 2002 Conference School of Mission.

Betty Carlin will join the team singing the Spirit Song as Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth. Betty is a former Conference Vice President from Anacoco, the Lake Charles District.

Other elected team members are Donna Law and Cheryl Milburn, elected to the Committee on Nominations, Class of 2005.

Donna is a retired Registered Nurse and an active member of her local unit at Shreveport First UMC. Cheryl is a member of St. Mark UMC in Opelousas, where she has served as Unit President and presently as Mission Coordinator for Social Action. Cheryl is employed as Chief Deputy Registrar of Voters, St Landry Parish.

Evelyn Hoffman was elected to serve on the Charter for Racial Justice Committee. Evelyn is from the Lake Charles District.

Elected to serve a second two year term as Secretary of Program Resources was Shirley Jacocks of Hammond, LA.

Continuing on the team is Kathleen Conrad as Vice President, Jeanette McCalman as Treasurer, Ethel Lilly as Social Action Coordinator, and Rita Parham as Nominations Committee Chairperson.

Old Familiar Voices Singing a New Song

Frances Patton

Carolyn Colvin

Brenda Canty

Frances Patton changes hats from Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation to Secretary. Francis is a member of the Monroe District, past Assistant Dean, and former Dean of the Conference School of Christian Mission.

Carolyn Colvin, ending four years as Secretary will now be Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation. Carolyn is of the Shreveport District.

Brenda Canty ended her service as Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach and now moves on to serve as Communications Coordinator. Brenda will be very busy serving as West Gulf Regional School Registrar, Dean of the Conference School of Christian Mission and Newsletter editor.

Annual Meeting Reflection 2001

Kathleen Conrad
Vice President

- A community of women who know God—Endless
- Bishop and Mrs. William Hutchinson's message and music — Inspirational
- 4 months old (Joy Brown) attending her first Annual Meeting—Precious
- Jazz musicians from St. Mark Community Center—Relaxing
- Music Fit for an angelic choir—Uplifting
- Special Mission Recognition—Rewarding

Watch your thoughts;
they become words.
Watch your words;
they become actions.
Watch your actions;
they become habits.
Watch your habits;
they become character.
Watch your character;
it becomes your destiny.

Frank Outlaw

Words From Your Treasurer

Is there anything more uplifting and inspirational than to hear a choir, blending their voices in harmony, singing an anthem or hymn? One of my greatest desires (and greatest shortcomings) is to have a beautiful voice to sing praises to God! And, I feel in my heart, that when I am in my heavenly body I will be given vocal chords that will be clear, beautiful, in tune and never tire.

But, until then, I have this wonderful opportunity to share with you! We, as United Methodist Women, can give a special Assembly Offering. Each unit should send their money to the District Treasurer, who will send it to the Conference Treasurer. When we attend the Assembly in Philadelphia in April, we will carry one check from the Women of Louisiana. This offering, combined with offerings from all the other conferences, will provide grants for programs that will empower women and enable them to "Sing a New Song of independence. This offering will continue being collected throughout the rest of the year as a channel of designated giving, and the funds will be used for grants which will have to meet precise criteria to help women move from dependence to independence.

Let's blend our gifts with those from all over, and then hear the women "Singing a New Song."

At this writing, the figures are not all in place yet, BUT, it looks as though we have done it again! We have met, and surpassed, our pledge. Congratulations on a job well done, to the District Treasurers and the Unit Treasurers and the Members of the Local Units! What a tremendous outpouring of gifts for mission! This last quarter we could have been in real trouble because of the tragedy of September 11th. So much has been given for the survivors of that event, however Mission goes on, and we must not let down those in the field. God is good and generous and we must strive to be like him. God bless you in the coming year. Keep up the good work!

Jeanette McCalman, Treasurer

Reading is Fundamental

Now is the time to check on your unit counterparts and see how their Reading Program is progressing. We are beginning a new year in UMW but the Reading Program goes from July to July. The reports are due to me by August 15th so that our report is ready for Annual Meeting. There are several books on the 2002 list that I would like to bring to your attention. *Grandfather's Tale* is a glimpse into the Ottoman Islamic society during a war with Russia and provides new perspectives on the Middle East. *Dream Freedom* highlights some of the problems of the Sudanese people who have been taken from their families and forced into hard labor.

Continued from Reading is Fundamental

These and other books on our list can help us to be aware of things that are happening in the world around us.

The Power of the Dream and *Reflect, Rekindle, Renew* are among those books that will give us hope and help us on our spiritual journey. I trust that every Conference, District and Local Officer will join the Reading Program and become informed members of UMW.

Don't forget that the 2002 Prayer Calendar and the 2002 Children's Prayer Calendar are now available from the Service Center. Units that are working on being a Mission Today Unit should be aware that using the Prayer Calendar will meet two of the items on our list—#1 and #6, participating in the Reading Program will meet item #16, and subscribing and using Response Magazine will meet items #13 and #14.. Keep reading and I hope to see many of you at Assembly in April.

Shirley Gassen Jacocks
Secretary of Program Resources

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
School of Christian Mission
Theme: "God's Mission: Faith in Action"
Wednesday—Saturday, July 24-27, 2002
PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATES !
REGISTRATION WILL BE FROM 2:00-5:00PM. AND THE OPENING PLENARY WILL BEGIN AT 5:00 P.M.
(The committee hopes that this will provide an opportunity for more working women to attend without having to take off too many days from work).

The school will also provide and opportunity for those persons selected to teach District Mini-Schools to become certified.

The 2002 studies are: The Spiritual Growth study is *James,* The General Issue study is *Restorative Justice,* and the Geographical study is *Mexico.*

Complete details will be in the May Newsletter.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED 225

Seven Conference offices available for 2003. The LA Conference UMW invites you to accept a leadership role in an organization with an outstanding reputation for work on local, national and international stages of mission. All positions require technicolor vision, creativity in expanding concepts of mission, participation in connectional activities and meetings of the organization. Leadership training and travel opportunities also available. For more information contact Rita Parham, Nominations Committee Chairperson.

WANTED! Teen /College/University Age Women.
To attend the LA Conference School of Christian Mission on a Scholarship. When: July 24-27,2002.
Where: LA conference Center, Woodworth, LA.
Applicants must apply by June 2002 and include a written statement of 50 words or more entitled: "I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because..." Applications will be available through your District President. First time participants need only apply.

FOR TRADE 318

Trade a hum-drum life for one of love, fellowship, learning experience, and mission work. Join United Methodist Women today! We need you, you need us. There would be no UMW without U.

LOST AND FOUND 504

Looking for four (4) District Secretaries to send their address labels to Brenda. No labels, No Newsletters.

FOR SALE 985

LA Conference UMW TEE-SHIRTS are still available for purchase. The Tee-shirt will be worn at the UMW National Assembly in Philadelphia. We will also plan to wear the shirt together one day at Regional School and Conference School of Mission and Conference Annual Meeting. The shirt is a kelly green with a LA Map Logo and your district area will be stamped with a red star. See order form for more details. The deadline is extended until February 1, 2002.

UMW TEE-SHIRT ORDER FORM

The Tee-Shirt is designed for any event. This will be the official 2002 Women's Assembly Tee-Shirt

NAME _____ DISTRICT _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE ( ) _____ City _____ Zip code _____

Total Quantity _____

Order total: $ _____

☐ Small—$6.50 ☐ XL -$6.50
☐ Med. —$6.50 ☐ 2X—$7.00
☐ Large —$6.50 ☐ 3X—$7.50

Make Check payable to: : LA CONFERENCE UMW
Mail this form and remittance to:
Brenda Canty
3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

The Passing of the Gavel

By Elouise Sanders

Many times during my spiritual journey, God has led me into areas of service that I may not have chosen as my first priority. Serving as Conference President of United Methodist Women was not at the top of my list of things to do during my retirement years. After much prayer and consideration and with faith that God would guide me, I accepted the nomination.

What a blessing it has been to my life to be a part of an organization that is in mission to God's children around the world and whose members give of their time, their talents and their money in the service of others.

As I reflect back over the past four years, my heart is filled with gratitude for the love and support I have received from United Methodist Women all over the state.

I am grateful for all the ones who served as Conference Officers and as members of the Executive Committee. Thanks for your patience, understanding and cooperative attitude. I deeply appreciated your willingness to work as a team.

I am grateful for the ladies who served as District Presidents. You graciously did all the things I requested you to do. You were the essential link between the conference and the local units.

I am especially grateful to all the local units for their dedication and for all the wonderful projects and activities they participated in. Without the work of the local units, there would not be a United Methodist Women's organization.

Thanks to all of the members of United Methodist Women for affording me the opportunity to serve as your Conference President for the past four years. It has been a wonderful journey of faith and God has richly blessed me. Please keep up the good work and continue to support the vision and the mission of United Methodist Women.

COME SING A NEW SONG
WITH 10,000 WOMEN!
ACT NOW!

On April 25-26, 2002, more than 10,000 women will gather at the 16th quadrennial Assembly of United Methodist Women at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Contact your District President for a registration packet. Completed registrations must be in the Assembly Office by MARCH 8, 2002. The LA Conference Block room requests are due January 8, 2002. However, there are other available hotel space.

United Methodist Women celebrate UMW Sunday

"I am the vine, you are the branches"

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will celebrate UMW Sunday, traditionally on the 4th Sunday in January. The 2002 theme, "I am the vine, you are the branches," is an invitation to membership in a organization of women who are advocates for women, children and youth.

The organization of UMW has been in existence for over 100 years. Today, there are one million plus members in over 25,000 local units in the United States.

Membership in UMW offers participation in and with a unique community of women focused on world-wide mission and encourages the development and use of leadership skills. The national membership campaign goal is to increase membership by 10% in every district around the nation. This campaign started in 1996 and will end in December of 2002. Therefore, the LA Conference of UMW must keep recruiting and retaining members. The conference goal for 2002 is to concentrate special emphasis on teen women, college/university women, young women, newly retired women and women of various racial, cultural and language groups.

The UMW Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate membership and invite others to join. The Conference UMW celebration is made special with the purchase and wearing of UMW Ribbons. Ribbons can be purchased by contacting the District UMW Treasurer. The UMW Ribbon, embossed with logo and theme, are collectors items, and an invitation to membership. Interested women are welcome to join their local church unit, charge group, or to become a district member.

Goodbye to secretarial duties and hello to those of Coordinator for Education and Interpretation (E & I for short). The main item I want to bring to your attention is the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Quiet Day or Day Apart, which can be held during the months of January, February or March. Start planning now!

Carolyn Colvin

Mark Your Calendar

January	TBA	Task Force for Annual Meeting
	27	UMW Sunday
February	1-2	Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting—LA Conference Center
March	16	Conference Committee Meetings (Finance, Membership, & Nominations) LA Conference Center
April	25-28	UMW Assembly Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
June	21-25	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission Abilene, TX
July	24-27	LA Conference School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center
August		District Mini-Schools of Mission
September	13-14	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Pineville FUMC, Pineville, LA
October	12	District Elected Leaders Training/ DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome.

This newsletter is published three times a year.

Due dates are:

January Newsletter—due date December 3, 2001.
May Newsletter—due date April 1, 2002.
August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2002.

Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:

Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Fax—225-356-7687 or

E-mail
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

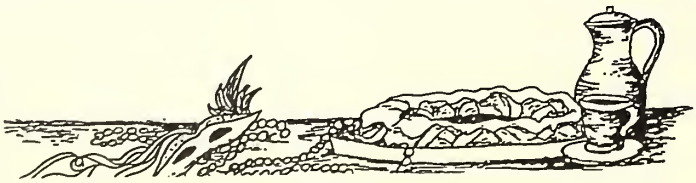
MARDI GRAS KING CAKE

1 pkg (8oz) cream cheese, softened
1/3 cup powdered sugar
1/2 tsp vanilla extract
2 pkg (8oz) refrigerated crescent rolls
1 cup lemon pie filling (your choice; lemon matches the mardi gras colors)

Glaze:
1/4 cup powdered sugar
1 tbl milk or juice

Colored Sugar:
yellow, green, and purple food coloring
sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat cream cheese, sugar, and extract together until smooth. Separate crescent roll pieces of dough and arrange the pieces on 15-Inch Baking Stone with long points in center. Push the dough together to cover the stone, leaving center open. Spread cream cheese mixture over dough. Top with pie filling. Fold dough around outer edge and also fold tips of dough in center. Bake for 25 - 30 minutes or until golden brown. Mix together powdered sugar and juice with Mini-Whipper until smooth. Put sugar in ziploc and add green food coloring, knead until well blended. Repeat for each color. Drizzle with glaze, then decorate with sugar alternating Mardi Gras colors.



Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
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Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXV No. 2

May 2002

Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission
LA Conference Center, Woolworth, LA
July 24-27, 2002

When the rich young ruler asked Jesus, "What must I do to be saved?" The answer was a combination of faith and action—"go sell all you have and give it to the poor, then come and follow me". James echoed Jesus' mandate when he wrote "faith without works is dead". James spoke to those in his day who had material possessions about their treatment of the poor, the relationship of wealth and oppression, and care for widows and orphans. He called on the followers of Jesus to consider whether what they were doing by hoarding, living an easy lifestyle while others suffered, condoning corruption and condemning the weak was really God's will.

In the section of *The Book of Discipline* entitled, "Our Doctrinal Heritage", we find a statement of **Mission and Service** which states: "We [United Methodist] insist that personal salvation always involves Christian mission and service to the world. By joining heart and hand, we assert that personal religion, evangelical witness, and Christian social action are reciprocal and mutually reinforcing. Scriptural holiness entails more than personal piety; love of God is always linked with love of neighbor, a passion for justice and renewal in the life of the world."

In Jesus, God entered the world of brokenness, violence, and vengeance to offer reconciliation and to restore right relationships between individuals and God and between neighbors. The criminal justice system in the United States is based on punishment and retribution for crime, but Christians have the greatest example of reconciliation in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. How do we respond to those accused of crimes and those already in prison?

Among the world's poor and oppressed today, we find many persons of Mexican heritage both within Mexico and in the United States. Economic and political decisions on both sides of our common border have created pressure for migration, caused environmental degradation, and lead to harassment, discrimination and economic exploitation. How does our passion for God's mission link us in partnership with Christians in Mexico to show love of these neighbors?

Faith calls Christians into community with the many by the side of life's road who are victims of individual acts of violence and with the millions who are victims of unjust systems. For James and for United Methodists, Christ's followers are called to identify the needs both of individuals and of society and to address those needs. Annette and I extend an invitation not only to United Methodist Women, but Clergy, Laity, Teen Women and College and University Women to join us at the 2002 School of Christian Mission to study, worship and reaffirm that we are called by faith to be in mission, to seek justice and to risk being agents of reconciliation, hope and love.

Logo by Janell O'Neal from the Oklahoma Conference.
She says: "Action is movement. Putting one's faith and beliefs into motion is to walk hand-in-hand with another, it is to pray, to teach and to witness, it is to reach out to one in need and give a hug when words seem inadequate. It is enabled by God's great gift of Love found at the cross."

BRENDA CANTY
Dean

ANNETTE FORTUNA
Assistant Dean

Introducing the 2002 School of Christian Mission Teachers

Study Leader for the Bible Study - James

Rev. Arnold V. Brown was born in Bogalusa, LA . He is married to Doris Burnett Brown. They have two children, Arnold, Jr. and Joy Marie. Rev. Brown graduated from Dillard University with a B.S. degree in Biology Pre-Med. He received his Master's of Divinity from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. His first appointment was the St. James/Round Grave Charge in Shreveport, LA. He served in that appointment from 1988 to 1992. From 1992 to the present he has served as Pastor of Neely UMC in Baton Rouge, LA. Rev. Brown has taught in Schools of Christian Mission in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, Northshore, Baton Rouge and Acadian District Schools. Some of the studies include: Ecclesiastes, Refugees, Africa Church Speaks and Joshua. Rev. Brown has been the featured speaker for a variety of occasions. Of all of the opportunities to serve as a Pastor in the Louisiana Conference, Rev. Brown has especially treasured the opportunity to teach.

Study Leaders for the Geographical Study - Mexico

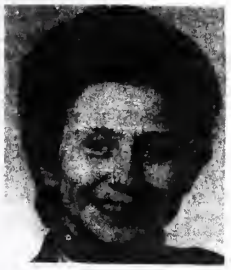
Marzia Fitzner resides in Estanica, New Mexico. She has been married to Mr. Fitzner for forty years with four grown children and four grandchildren. She has served the United Methodist Women's organization as New Mexico's Conference President, Financial Interpretation and Supportive Community. Marzia has been the Dean of Regional School of Christian Mission and served for eight years with Women's Division and worked with UMCOR. Marzia was given the New Mexico conference Living Archive Award, given to lay and clergy achieving outstanding leadership.

Leora E. Hatch affectionately known as "Lee" lives in South Texas. She and her husband are members of First UMC of New Braunfels, TX. Lee is serving the United Methodist Women there as Secretary of Program Resources. She will be the Registrar for the Quadrennial Meeting in 2004, which will meet in San Antonio, TX. In 1992, Lee completed eight years as a director of the General Board of Global Ministries, assigned to the Women' Division, World Division, and Mission Personnel Resources Department. She has traveled to countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, Central America and the Caribbean. Lee taught piano for thirty years. She attended Miami-Dade Community College, studying Sociology and Leadership Development. Lee and her husband have three children, eight grandchildren and four great– grandchildren .

Bernadine Johnson is a deacon in full connection and serves as LA Conference Director of Mission Resourcing. She completed basic theological studies at Perkins School of Theology. She is a graduate of the Academy for Spiritual Leadership, through which she was also trained as a Labyrinth facilitator, and certified in Spiritual Direction. She is co-leader of the Companions in Christ group at Francis Asbury UMC, Baton Rouge. Bernie is a native of New Orleans. She has an undergraduate degree from California State University, Los Angeles, and a juris doctor degree from Whittier College School of Law. She is employed as an attorney in public service. In November 2001, Bernie participated in a mission caravan to border towns in Sonora, Mexico. During this "immersion opportunity" Bernie was

Jo Traweek has been affiliated with UMW and its working women's forerunner, the Wesleyan Service Guild for approximately fifty years. She is past president of the Monroe District and now serving as Conference Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator. Jo became a certified Bethel Bible Study Teacher and taught the Bethel Bible Study for four years. She was a Disciple Bible Study facilitator and was facilitator for Disciple Bible Studies I, II, and III. Jo has spent thirty-five years in the teaching profession. She has two daughters and one son, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. She is currently serving on the Intern Committee at her local church.

Study Leaders for the Social Issue Study - Restorative Justice



Mary Lou Blakeman was born in Sulphur, LA. She was educated at Centenary College and LSU in Shreveport, LA and Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Mary Lou is presently working as a school psychologist in the Juvenile Justice Department in Monroe, LA. In the UMW, Mary Lou has been President and Vice President at the district level; study leader in conference and regional schools; co-author of international study book on Ecclesiastes; LA Conference Annual meeting chairperson; and spiritual retreat speaker for several conferences. Mary Lou is married to a retired United Methodist minister. She is mother of three grown children and grandmother to two girls.

Rev. James F. Haynes is a graduate of Dillard University in New Orleans and has his Masters of Divinity from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA. He is the minister of Cornerstone UMC in New Orleans, LA, a member of the Clergy Transition Seminar Team, and serves on the staff as a Clergy Mentor. He also serves on the Bishop's Task Force for Future Cross-Cultural Appointments. Rev. Haynes serves as a mentor for the "Star" Reading Program, member of Delgado Community College Campus Ministry, and board member of People's Community Center. Before being called to the ministry, Rev. Haynes served in law enforcement. Rev. Haynes is married to Mildred Briggs and the father of one son, Jerel.

Rev. John R. Johns was born in Shreveport, LA. He is a graduate of Centenary College and Perkins School of Theology. He is married and father of two sons. John has served churches throughout the LA conference and has served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Church and Society and chairman of the Conference Communications Committee. A few years ago he felt a call to do something in the area of restorative justice. In 2000 he retired from the active ministry and became Coordinator of Restorative Justice Ministries for the LA Annual Conference. He was commissioned as a 10-10-10 missionary with the Board of Global Ministries in the field of Restorative Justice.

Barbara "Babs" Stauss works on the board of an alcohol and drug recovery program for paroled women in a 3/4/way house, which is in the process of enlarging to meet demands for care and aftercare. "Babs" has worked as a laboratory technologist, church organist, and Associate Director of the Mississippi Conference Council, UMC. "Babs" has been president of Mississippi's Church Women United and UMW Conference President. She has taught in Schools of Christian Mission in nine conferences. "Babs" is widowed and mother of five and grandmother of five. She teaches weekly Bible classes, sings in the church choir and city choral society.

Teen Women (Youth) Study Leader

Linda Ann Carter Joseph was born in Port Allen, LA. She graduated form Southern University with a degree in Vocational Home Economics and a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling. Linda is currently enrolled in Gammon Seminary School through ITC at Dillard University in New Orleans, LA. She is a member of Neely UMC in Baton Rouge where she serves as coordinator of the Outreach Ministry Program. She has served in the Prison Ministry Program with the Honorable Judge Bob Downing and is certified through Jetson Correctional Facility to serve with the Epiphany Ministry of LA. In her missionary endeavors, Linda has traveled with volunteers in missions to Rio Bravo, Mexico and Cape Town South Africa. Linda is married to Ulysses Joseph and they have two sons, Bryant and Andre.

Workshop Leader for Adult Leaders of Children Studies

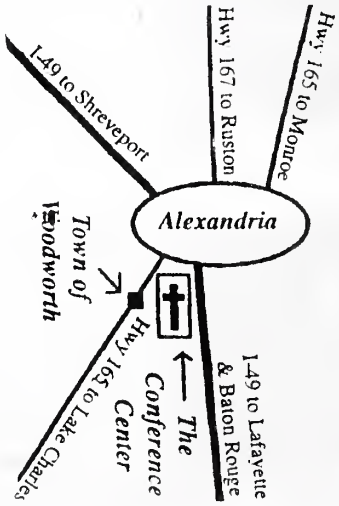
Laura F. Brown is a native and resident of Jeanerette, LA. She is presently a District Missioner for the Acadiana District. Laura is a member of St. Paul UMC in Jeanerette and is pursuing the United Methodist ministry inquiry candidacy. She has a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Southern University and a certificate of Theology from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. She serves on the Committee Revitalization Committee, a past Port Commissioner & Interim President, and City Alderwoman. Laura was married to the late Andrew Brown and she has six children.

School Committee

Dean/Communications Coordinator ..... Brenda Canty
Assistant Dean ..... Annette Fortuna
President/Officer Update ..... Lueberda Myers
Vice President/Officer Update ..... Kathleen Conrad
Secretary/Officer Update ..... Frances Patton
Registration/Business Manager ..... Jeanette McCalman
Housing ..... Evelyn Evans
Spiritual Growth /Worship Center, Table Graces & Morning Praise ..... Betty Carlin
Social Action/Officer Update ..... Ethel Lilly
Education & Interpretation/ Officer Update ..... Carolyn Colvin
Membership Nurture Outreach/Officer Update ..... Jo Traweek
Program Resources/Literature Display & Sales ..... Shirley Jacocks
Learning Center/Displays & Fun Night ..... Rita Parham
Music Leader ..... Betty Swanson
Pianist ..... Dorothy Pennington
Local Arrangements ..... Jimmie Ussery & Lena French
First Aid Volunteer ..... Kathleen Thoms
Audio Visual ..... Any interested person , please call the Dean

ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE SCHOOL OF MISSION

DIRECTIONS. **From Baton Rouge**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49, From I-49, take Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles) **From New Orleans**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles). **From Shreveport**, take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)



2002 Mission Education Events

Acadiana District
August 24, 2002
Sager Brown
10:00 am—12 noon

Alexandria District
September 28, 2002
David Haas, Bunkie

Baton Rouge District
August 3, 2002
Faithful, St. Amant
Dean: Sally Lofland
Asst. Dean: Edna Hickman

Lake Charles District
August 25, 2002
Squyres, Ragley

Monroe District
August 24, 2002
Dean: Doret Gilbert-Wilson
Asst. Dean: Sandy DeCelle

New Orleans District
August 3, 2002
Convenant, Chalmette
8:30 am—12:30 pm
Dean: Sybil Boltman
Asst. Dean: Margaret Milnor

North Shore District
August 17, 2002
Roberts, Denham Springs
9:00 am—2:00 pm
Dean: Delma Baker
Asst. Dean: Mary Boyd

Ruston District
August 10, 2002
Lakeview, Minden
9:30 am—2:00 pm
Dean: Martha Young
Asst. Dean: Pat Pace

Shreveport District
August 17, 2002
Asbury, Bossier City
9:00 am—12 Noon
Dean: Shirley Ledbetter

CONFERENCE UPCOMING EVENTS

June	21-25	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission Abilene, TX
July	24-27	LA Conference School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center
August		District Mini-Schools of Mission
September	13-14	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Pineville FUMC, Pineville, LA
October	12	District Elected Leaders Training/DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2002.

Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:
Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805
Fax—225-356-7687 or

E-mail
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

NEXT EDITION—
What stories do these ladies have to tell?

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXV No. 3 August 2002

The 29th Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting
September 13-14, 2002

Muriel Miller
Annual Meeting Chairperson

Theme: "Sing A New Song"

Rosalie Pryor
Annual Meeting
Co-Chairperson

The 29th Annual Meeting of the LA Conference UMW will convene at 1:00 p.m. Friday, September 13, 2002 in the sanctuary of First UMC in Pineville, LA. The theme will emphasize our biblical heritage to "Sing a New Song unto the Lord."

Our biblical ancestors began a musical time line in scriptures from Genesis to Revelation: Jubal, ancestor of all musicians who play the harp and the flute; Miriam, Aaron's sister, who sang and danced after the Israelites were safely across the Red Sea; and the Levites who were commanded by King David to assign people to "sing and play joyful music on harps, both low and high pitched, accompanied by brass cymbals." The psalmists as well as the Israelites sang the texts; Mary sang words of praise after the Annunciation; and the Heavenly Host sang at Jesus' birth. So, we will sing words of praise, find solace and comfort in familiar hymns of our heritage, and deepen our faith as we join to "Sing a New Song."

Lueburba Myers, Conference President, will preside over the meeting. Members and guests will be welcomed by the host pastor, Rev. Ralph W. Ford and Rev. William Youngblood, Alexandria District Superintendent. Muriel Miller, Alexandria District UMW President is Chairperson of the event and Rosalie Pryor is Co-Chairperson. Kathryn Shea is in charge of Local Arrangements.

We look forward to opening remarks by Bishop Hutchinson accompanied by his wife Kay that Friday afternoon. We are very excited to have as our guest speaker, Genie Bank, President of the Women's Division whom we will hear from on Friday night and again on Saturday morning.

A Friday evening banquet has been planned at the Best Western of Alexandria which will also serve as headquarters hotel. The ladies of the Alexandria District and Pineville UMW are pleased with the opportunity to host this Annual Meeting and hope that everyone will receive a blessing by learning to "Sing A New Song."

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING 2002!

We are truly blessed to be Americans where we have the opportunity to publicly serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ without reprisal. It is by choice that the United Methodist Women's organization is one of our main venues for rendering service to others in the name of the Lord with particular emphasis upon women, children and youth.

When we convene our 29th Annual Meeting on September 13-14, 2002 in Pineville, let us celebrate the works and accomplishments of our 265 plus units across the nine districts of the conference. Let us greet our special guest Mrs. Genie Bank, our Women's Division President, by having a record number of women in attendance and extending to her our warm southern hospitality.

Special thanks to Muriel, Rosalie and the Annual Meeting Committee for their hard work in preparing for this occasion.

This is a formal invitation to everyone in the conference to be a part of this celebration as we "Sing a New Song."

Lueburda Jamison Myers
Conference President

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING FACTS AND FOCUS

The registration form is included in this newsletter. Please complete and return to Jeanette McCalman with the proper remittance by September 1, 2002. Each person who registers (attends) including all officers must pay the $7.50 registration fee. This fee includes the insurance that will cover you from the time you leave home, throughout the meeting and your return home. Please be sure to indicate if you need child care service for this event. Also, check the boxes that will indicate what meals you will be eating at Pineville UMC. Best Western guests will have a free deluxe breakfast provided. However, a continental breakfast will be served at the church which will include sweet muffins, donut holes, juice and coffee. Sandwiches will be available in the large meeting room near the kitchen on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on Saturday after the communion service.

Remember, there will be a banquet Friday evening and you must pre-register for this meal. The cost is $15.00 per person, please indicate this on the registration form and include that amount.

The planned menu is:

Boneless Chicken Breast with a sauce
Buttered Parsley Potatoes
Whole Green Beans with Slivered Almonds
Spinach Salad
Dinner Rolls
Plantation Peach Cobbler
Iced Tea Coffee

A post-executive committee luncheon meeting will be held immediately following the Communion Service. All retiring officers, newly elected officers and continuing officers are asked to be in attendance. Meeting room TBA.

HEALTH KITS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

One of the goals for the year 2002 approved by the United Methodist Women included preparing health kits to assist residents at the Louisiana State Correctional Institute for Women . The request is to place the following item/s in a 2 gallon zipper style food bag and bring them to the Annual Meeting at First UMC in Pineville on September 13-14, 2002:

A Complete Health Kit Includes:

(One of each item, except where noted)
One medium box Kleenex or three purse size
Shower Cap
One package of sponge rollers
Hair net
Plastic Hairbrush (Plastic only)
Comb (No Rattail)
Washcloth
Toothbrush
One pair of socks or footies
One Pen/one pencil
Emery Boards (2-3)
Stationary:
- 5 x 8 notepad
- All occasion greeting cards
- Blank Note
- Two envelopes
- One stamped (First class postage rate)
- Sewing Kit (no scissors) complimentary hotel sewing kits
- Purchased kit without the scissors.

HOUSING INFORMATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Headquarter hotel -
Best Western of Alexandria
2720 West MacArthur Drive
Alexandria, LA 71301
318-445-5530
1-888-338-2008

Room Rates:

Double	$55.00 plus tax	2 double beds
Suite	$69.00 plus tax	2 queen size beds

All room reservations must be made by August 30th. Tell the reservation clerk that you are with the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Church.

Directions:

Coming from the South on I-49:
Ignore Exit 80 to MacArthur Dr., continue on I-49 and take Exit 86 to MacArthur Dr., (turn left) then to Frontage Rd. Hotel is on the right.

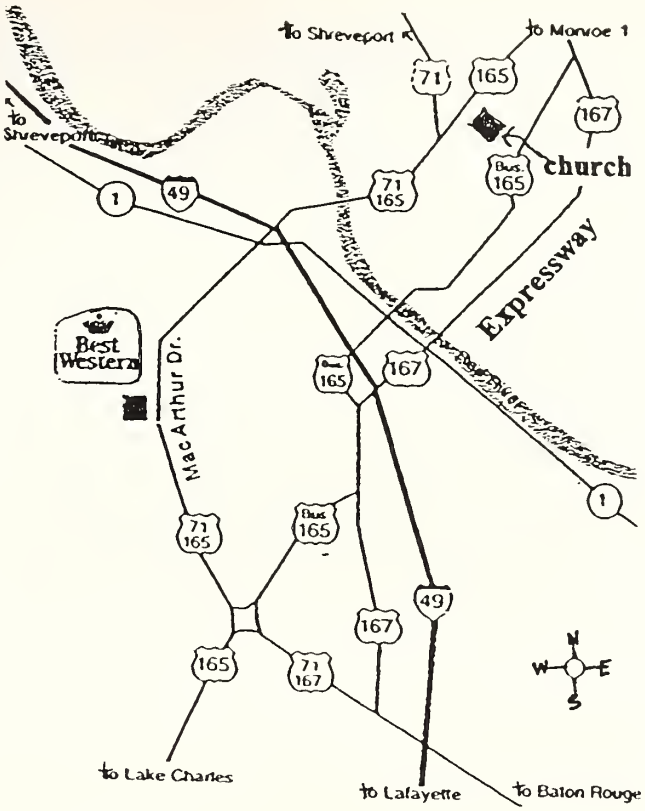
Coming from the North on I-49:
Take Exit 86 (turn right to MacArthur Dr., then to Frontage Rd.

From Hwys. 165, 167N and 71:
At South Circle take Monroe/Shreveport Exit to MacArthur Dr., go approx 3 miles. Get on the left Service Rd. after you pass Shoney's, hotel is on the left.

From Hwys 165S, 71 and 167S from Pineville:
Cross Red River into Alexandria, continue South approx. 2 miles. Exit onto Frontage Rd. Hotel on the right.

From Hwy 28W:
Turn left on MacArthur Dr., get on the left Service Rd. after you pass Shoney's, hotel on the left.

To get to the church from the hotel:
Turn left onto MacArthur Dr. (it becomes Hwy 165), proceed across the OK Allen Bridge, keep in the right lane and continue to the church. It is on the right.



Registration:
Registration will begin at First UMC in Pineville in the Hall nearest the Front Doors at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 13, and continue until 12:30 p.m. You will be directed to parking and signs will be posed to direct you to registration tables in the building. Each district will have a table and someone from your district will be there to assist you, there you will receive your packet and name tag.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HIGHWAY 165, Pineville, LA

PROGRAM
"Sing A New Song"
Scriptures: Psalms 40:3, Psalms 137:4, Luke 1:46 and Colossians 3:16
Theme Hymn: "Sing a New Song"

FRIDAY AFTERNOON	**1:00 P.M.**
Musical Prelude	
Processional of Conference Officers	
Invocation	Betty Carlin
Convening of the 29th Annual Meeting	Lueburda Myers
Affirming our Purpose	Judy McDonald
Welcome	
Opening Hymn	"Sing Praise to God"
Recognition of Visitors	Lueburda Myers
Presentation of Program	Muriel Miller and Rosalie Pryor
Opening Remarks	Bishop William Hutchinson
Lighting of Mission Candle	Evelyn Evans, Dora Combest
Theme Hymn	"Sing a New Song"
Opening Meditation	Rev. Frances Hooten
UMW Sings	Judy Gross

******BREAK******

BUSINESS SESSION	
Appointed to Examine Journal	
Mission Team Reports	Conference Officers
Committee on Nominations	Rita Parham
Election of Officers	
President's Report	
Greeting from Jurisdiction	Sandra Darby
Church Women United	
Project Leaders Reports	
Service for Retiring Officers	Nancy Carruth, Dallene Perkins

FRIDAY EVENING BANQUET PROGRAM	**6:45 P.M.**
Welcome	Rosalie Pryor
Flute Soloist	R.L. Lancaster
Words of Grace	Muriel Miller
Dinner	
Musical Presentation	Newmanaires
Introduction of Speaker	Kathleen Conrad
Evening Message	Genie Bank
Announcements	Kathryn Shea
Benediction	Rev. Ralph Ford

SATURDAY MORNING	**8:30 A.M.**
UMW Sings	Judy Gross
Morning Worship	Rev. Lysbeth Cockrell
Pledge Service	Jeannette McCalman
Offertory Prayer	
Solo	Connie Chenevert
Doxology	
Morning Message	Genie Bank
Registration Report	Nancy Baker
Special Mission Recognition	Lueburda Myers
Hymn	Judy Gross
Installation of Officers	Rosalie Pryor, Willie M. Kimbrough
Invitation to the 2003 Annual Meeting	

******BREAK******

Prelude	
Morning Prayer	Rev. Dianne A. Jones
Special Music	Dr. Curtis Hamlett
Communion Meditation	Rev. Ralph Ford
Holy Communion	
Benediction	Rev. Bill Youngblood
Postlude	

2003 SLATE OF NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED
Nominated for a two year term: 2003-2004

Vice President:
Kathleen C. Conrad (A)
107 Kansas St., Lafayette, LA 70501
337-235-1941
E-mail: KCConrad@hotmail.com

Treasurer:
Jeanette McCalman (S)
715 Palmetto Ave., Plain Dealing, LA 71064
318-326-5921
E-mail: gimccalman@juno.com

Spiritual Growth Coordinator:
Betty L. Carlin (LC)
140 Tarou St., Anacoco, LA 71403
337-239-0148

Social Action Coordinator:
Jeanne B. Green (NO)
4940 Lafton Dr., New Orleans, LA 70126
504-241-0842
E-mail: JeanneBG01@aol.com

Chairperson of Nominations:
Staphenae C. Carey (NO) **Class of 2004**
9 Terraza Del Este, Harvey, LA 70058-2968
504-362-5513

Members, Committee on Nominations—Class of 2007

Ruth H. Butler (NS)
39426 Hwy. 190 East
Slidell, LA 70461
985-643-6870

Dorothy Evans (R)
195 Beatty Rd.,
Ruston, LA 71270
318-251-9992
E-mail: jarula712@aol.com

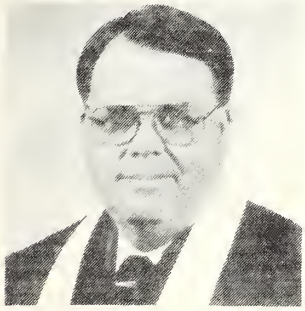
LaJanice London (NO)
1600 W. Minster Blvd.
Marrero, LA 70072
504-340-3257

Respectfully Submitted,
Rita M. Parham, Chairperson

Introducing the 2002 Annual Meeting Program Participants

Genie Bank
Guest Speaker

Genie Bank, is President of the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church and the National President of United Methodist Women. Genie was born in Pekin, Illinois and is a graduate of Michigan State University. She has been involved with the United Methodist Women on all levels, serving as, Unit President, Vice President, Christian Social Involvement Coordinator and Secretary of Financial Interpretation for the Saginaw Bay District, New York Conference. On the conference level, she has served as Conference President, Supportive Community Coordinator and Dean and Assistant Dean of the Conference School of Christian Mission for Western New York Conference. Genie has served as Dean and Assistant Dean of the Upper Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission and in 1996, she was elected to the office of President for the Northeastern Jurisdiction Core Planning Group. From 1996-2000, Genie served as a Director of Women's Division. Genie is married to Wayne H. Bank and they have two sons.



Rev. Ralph Ford
Host Pastor

Rev. Ralph Ford is pastor of First United Methodist Church in Pineville, LA. He received his B.A. degree from William Carey College in Hattiesburg, MS, a Master of Divinity from the Baptist Seminary in New Orleans, LA, and a Doctorate of Ministry from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Rev. Ford has served churches in Zachary, St. Helena and Lafayette. He is on the Board of Directors of the Methodist Foundation and the Board of Ordained Ministry. He and his wife, Paula have six children.

Rev. William Youngblood
Alexandria District
Superintendent

Rev. William Youngblood is District Superintendent of the Alexandria District. He received his B.A. degree from Asbury College, a Bachelor of Divinity from Candler School of Theology, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Mississippi, School of Law. Rev. Youngblood has served as Associate Pastor of First UMC in Baton Rouge and pastor of LA Memorial UMC in Opelousas. His is a trained Stephen Ministry Leader and has participated in Cursillo, Walk to Emmaus and Kairos. He and his wife Nanci have two children and two grandchildren.

Bishop William Hutchinson
LA Conference

Bishop William Hutchinson is the presiding Bishop of the Louisiana conference since 2000. He came to us from the New Mexico Conference Foundation. Bishop Hutchinson received his B.A. degree from the University of Oklahoma, a Master of divinity from Duke University, and an Honorary Doctor of divinity from McMurray University. He is a member of the General Board of Church and Society, General board of Discipleship, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the Division of Ordained Ministry. He and his wife Kay have two sons and one granddaughter.

Rev. Frances Hooten

Rev. Frances Hooten will bring us the opening meditation. She is a graduate of Candler School of theology, Emory University in Atlanta, GA. Rev. Hooten is currently serving as pastor of Trinity UMC in Alexandria, LA. She is an ordained elder in full connection and has faithfully served local congregations for the last nine years. She and her husband, Rev. Richard Hooten share their parsonage with their dog, cat and six fish.

Rev. Lysbeth Cockrell

Rev. Lysbeth Cockrell (Lys) will lead us in the morning devotional Saturday. She is now serving as pastor of Doyline and Sibley United Methodist Churches in the Ruston District. She is a Licensed Local Pastor and is in her third year of seminary at Perkins School of Theology in Dallas. Lys entered the ministry following 25 years of experience in the fields of education and counseling. She has a Bachelor's Degree in English Education from the University of LA in Monroe, a Master's Degree in Counseling from LA Tech and an Education Specialist in Family Counseling from LSU. She is married to Kerry Cockrell and is the mother of three grown children.

Jeanette Key
UMW President
First UMC, Pineville

Kathryn Shea
Local Arrangements
Chairperson

MUSIC PERSONNEL

Lentha Piner will be the organist. She presently serves as organist at Palestine UMC and part-time at Pineville UMC.

Judy and George Gross will work as a team, Judy as song leader and George will share his talents on the keyboard and piano. Both are members of Pineville UMC.

SING
A
NEW
SONG

UMW
2003

2002 MISSION RIBBON

The mission ribbons are ready and will be available at the Annual Meeting Registration area. You may write or call Jeannette McCalman, Conference Treasurer, to find out the availability of the ribbons you need. At that time, the ribbons will be set aside for you and held until Annual Meeting, or until you send your payment. Write to 715 W. Palmetto Ave., Plain Dealing, LA 71064, or call 318-226-5921. Or you may e-mail gjmccalman@juno.com. All proceeds will go toward our Conference Pledge to Mission. This year's design was done by Dallene Perkins. The color is eggshell with black lettering.

Special Note: A limited number of mission ribbons from past years are available for $1.00 each, for those who would like to fill out their collections. These will be available on a first-come, first serve basis while supplies last. The funds will be undesignated and will go toward meeting our pledge to mission for

M I S S I O N C A N D L E

2002 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	**$ .63**
1 MINUTE	**$ 37.80**
5 MINUTES	**$ 189.00**
1 HOUR	**$2,268.00**

The lighting of the MISSION CANDLE will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 13-14, 2002, at Pineville UMC in Pineville, LA. The Candle was first burned at the 1079 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the Tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present and future as women organized for mission. Units and individual will want to be a part of this meaningful expression of our united commitment to a worldwide program of mission outreach.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY** or **IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. This goal can be realized if every unit gives 1 minute or more for the MISSION CANDLE. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift required. All monies are incorporated into each District's PLEDGE TO MISSION.

Please use this form to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the Form with your check to your District Treasurer by September first.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT - (If more space is needed, attach additional sheets. DO NOT write on back)

Individual/Unit submitting form:

Church: _____ District: _____

City: _____ Phone: ( ) _____

Given By: Name of Individual/Unit In HONOR of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Given By: Name of Individual/Unit In MEMORY of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____

Mission Offering: On the Saturday morning of annual meeting an offering will be take for Undesignated Giving. Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the "Mission Candle" and "One Second of Your Time" as you honor loved ones. These gifts help increase our Gift to Mission and keep the Mission candle burning as long as possible during the annual meeting.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE RETIRING OFFICERS

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of year to contribute to a **Special Offering** in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in United Methodist Women. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "Thank you" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will apply to your District's **PLEDGE TO MISSION.**

Your contributions in the past have been very generous. The retiring officers appreciate this acknowledgement of their service in mission. We know you will want to continue this fine tradition and participate in honoring those women who are retiring this year.

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their annual meetings in October and November.

Thanks be to God for his gift beyond words!

II Corinthians 9:15

WORLD THANK OFFERING

October is the month for our World Thank Offering. On the next two pages of this newsletter you will find your October calendar and 31-Derful Ways To Say Thanks. Isn't it fun to use it each day to collect the money we will use for this offering? Drop the coins into a small box or jar each day and watch it accumulate. Then bring it to your Unit Meeting when you have the World Thank Offering Service.

October 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WEEK 1 PRAY FOR GUIDANCE		*1* *You, Lord are my Light;* *2 Samuel 22:29*	*2* *Lead me to do Your will;* *Psalm 5:8*	*3* *...guide me and Lead me...* *Psalm 31:3*	*4* *...to guide our steps Into the path of Peace* *Luke 1:79*	*5* *...he will lead you Into all the truth.* *John 16:13*
6 *WEEK 2 PRAY FOR STRENGTH*	*7* *He strengthens those Who are weak and Tired.* *Isaiah 40:29*	*8* *...you will be filled With power...* *Acts 1:8*	*9* *...the Kingdom of God Is...a matter of power* *1 Corinthians 4:20*	*10* *...my power is Greatest when you Are weak.* *2 Corinthians 12:9*	*11* *...his Spirit fills us With power...* *2 Timothy 1:7*	*12* *...how very great Is his power...* *Ephesians 1:19*
13 *WEEK 3 PRAY FOR PEACE*	*14* *You must love truth And peace* *Zechariah 8:19*	*15* *...those who work For good will find Happiness.* *Proverbs 12:20*	*16* *...strive for peace With all your heart.* *Psalm 34:14*	*17* *Happy are those Who work for Peace;* *Matthew 5:9*	*18* *...live in peace with One another.* *Mark 9:50*	*19* *He will be called ...Prince of Peace.* *Isaiah 9:6*
20 *WEEK 4 PRAY FOR GRACE*	*21* *...by his grace we Might be put right With God...* *Titus 3:7*	*22* *...it is by God's grace That you have been Saved...* *Ephesians 2:8*	*23* *...we will receive Mercy and find Grace...* *Hebrews 4:16*	*24* *...God poured rich Blessings on them All.* *Acts 4:33*	*25* *He does not refuse Any good thing...* *Psalm 84:11*	*26* *...good people want To be forgiven.* *Proverbs 14:9*
27 *WEEK 5 PRAY FOR OTHERS (INTERCESSION)*	*28* *You should pray to God, who will give That person life.* *1 John 5:16*	*29* *God knows that I Remember you every Time I pray.* *Romans 1:9*	*30* *...pray for those who Persecute you,* *Matthew 5:44*	*31* *...we pray for you.* *Colossians 1:3*		

31-DERFUL WAYS TO SAY THANKS

DAY 1. We are to honor God with our "first fruits". Give **10 cents** if you take your tithe out first. Give **15 cents** if you give our of the left overs.

DAY 2. No hope for a real meal is a daily experience for millions throughout the world. Give **10 cents** for each meal you ate today and **5 cents** for each snack you ate.

DAY 3. UMW Mission studies are intended to enlighten women and stimulate response to the needs of others. Give **10 cents** for each study your unit presented this year. Add **5 cents** for each one YOU failed to attend.

DAY 4. Substance abuse has become a major problem for college age students. Give **15 cents** if your church has hosted an information session for high school/college age students. Give **25 cents,** if not.

DAY 5. Affordable quality child care is a top priority for families in this country. Give **15 cents** if you have let your congressmen know you are in favor of this legislation, and **25 cents** if you have not.

DAY 6. Battered women often leave home without having time to pack. Give **5 cents** for each item you have provided for their needs this month, **15 cents** if you have given nothing.

DAY 7. Fall is traditionally a time to clean house. When you clean, give **5 cents** for each book you passed on to someone else. Give **10 cents** if you kept all of your books.

DAY 8. Your church's hospitality is expressed through a loving spirit and the appearance of the grounds and building. Give **5 cents** for each time you helped create a "welcome" atmosphere. Give **15 cents** if you have done nothing.

DAY 9. Response Magazine tells the mission story of UMW and carries a message of hope. Give **10 cents** if you subscribe/read Response, **20 cents** if you do not.

DAY 10. John Wesley felt a strong need for prison ministry. Stop right now, and send up a prayer for those who are incarcerated and for those who minister to them.

DAY 11. The Reading Program encourages UMW members to critical thinking about issues facing humanity. Give **10 cents** if you participate, **20 cents** if you do not.

DAY 12. Membership in UMW helps a woman grow. Give **5 cents** for each woman you have invited to join your unit in the past 6 months. Give **15 cents** if you have invited no one.

DAY 13. Families of persons in prison suffer loss of support in all forms. Give **15 cents** for every person you know who has a family member in prison.

DAY 14. The Prayer Calendar makes a connection between those in mission and those supporting them. Give **10 cents** if you use your calendar regularly, **25 cents** if you do not.

DAY15. Involving young women, ages 18-39, in UMW has become a focus in order to offer support and fellowship. Give **3 cents** for each woman you know who is not in UMW.

DAY 16. Wesley Center in Atlanta serves seniors in the community. Give **5 cents** for each "senior" member of your UMW unit.

DAY 17. The coffee crisis is effecting producers and consumers alike. Give **10 cents** for each cup of coffee you drank today, and look for ways you can help.

DAY 18. There is no requirement for the number of members In UMW units. Give **1 cent** for each member of your unit or circle.

DAY 19. Hate crimes are acts against people or property based on race, gender religion, etc. Check the newspaper today and give **5 cents** for each hate crime reported.

DAY 20. Women's Division has made a list of programs eligible to receive gifts related to Mission Studies. Give **25 cents** if your unit has not made such a gift.

DAY 21. Material Resources is another way to give. Catalogs are available from the Service Center. Give **15 cents** if your Unit has participated and **25 cents** if not.

DAY 22. A Brighter Future for Children and Youth funds ministries for services to their needs. Give **5 cents** for each child, grandchild and great-grandchild you have.

DAY 23. The book of James says "Faith without works is dead". If you agree with this and practice it, give **25 cents**.

DAY 24. UMW Handbooks assist in the function of local, district and conference officers. Give **10 cents** if your unit has, and uses, these aids. Give **20 cents** if not.

DAY 25. Forming UMW Units inside women's prisons is a step toward restoring dignity and self-esteem. Give **15 cents** if you support this move and **25 cents** if not.

DAY 26. Consumerism has taken its toll on the environment. Give **5 cents** for every action you take to reverse this situation (recycling, planting trees, etc).

DAY 27. Pledge to Mission is one category of Undesignated Giving. Give **10 cents** if you made a pledge for 2002 and **25 cents** if you did not.

DAY 28. Fellowshipping with food is a great Methodist pastime. Give **10 cents** for each time you met and ate during this month.

DAY 29. If you forego a cup of coffee ($1.00) a week, you could increase your pledge to mission. Give 1/2 that amount, **50 cents**, if you will take this challenge.

DAY 30. Units receive a certificate at Annual Meeting if they have given in all five areas of Undesignated Giving. Give **15 cents** if your unit was a 5-Star Unit in 2002. Give **25 cents** if it was not.

DAY 31. Special Mission Recognition Pins can be given by anyone to anyone, at any time. If there is someone you want to acknowledge or show your appreciation, there is no better way to do it. The money goes to Mission and they will feel special. If you are considering this as a gift, put your money toward it. Give **50 cents,** if not.

READ READ READ

Now is the time to begin reading for the year 2003. The new books will be at the Annual Meeting in Pineville. You are now able to count books from 1998—2003 for you reading plan. We are encouraging all women to read for Plan 1 (4 books and Response) but also be challenged to read more.

There are several 2002 books that go along with our new studies. Check with you local SPR for those titles. Remember you can find some books on the reading list at your local library.

Shirley Jacocks

Conference Secretary of Program Resources

From the Editor

This is the last newsletter for the year 2002 and I can truly say that my first year's experience as editor has been an educational experience. In the teaching profession we try to develop the child physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually, and I have personally developed in all of these areas with reference to newsletter writing and distribution skills. But most of all this job has been a spiritual blessing because I have always believed and more firmly believe now that God does not choose you without equipping you with the tools and helpers to carry out the task. Therefore, though this medium, I take this opportunity to say a special thanks to the District Communications Coordinators and the District Secretaries for their prompt response for help. It is now the responsibility of the mentioned district officers to furnish me with the labels for mailing. If you or anyone you know would like to be on the mailing list, you must submit your name/s to your district person. Also if you have been getting a newsletter in the past and wish to continue, please submit your name again to the district person. Your district president will be delighted to direct you to the correct person.

Lastly, I would like to thank my mother and my sister for single-handedly helping me prepare some 9000 newsletters for distribution this year.

Brenda Canty, Editor
"Nothing is ever achieved without enthusiasm"

Kathleeen Conrad has been selected to represent the LA Conference UMW on the 2003 West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission Team. She will serve as Chairperson of the Nominations Committee. Carolyn Colvin will serve one more year as Nominations Committee Member.

Becoming a Mission Today Unit

Meet unit pledge to mission

I mplement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies

Select at least two programs from the Program Book during the year

Subscribe to and read Response

I nform members of legislative matters through UMW Action Network

Observe UMW Sunday

Needed materials sent to mission projects

T ell the mission stories

O rder and use the Prayer Calendar at each unit meeting

D o whatever God tells you

Always remember the PURPOSE

Yes!

By Pat Cobb

2002
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	Nov. 2	Sager-Brown, Baldwin
Alexandria	Sept. 28	David Haas, Bunkie
Baton Rouge	Nov. 2	St. John's, Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	Oct. 26	Gueydan
Monroe	Nov. 2	Bastrop, Memorial
New Orleans	Oct. 26	Aurora
North Shore	Nov. 2	Amite
Ruston	Oct. 19	Arcadia
Shreveport	Oct. 20	Broadmoor

District
Elected
Leadership
Training

"Sing A New Song of Leadership"

When: October 12, 2002

Where: LA Conference Center

Time: Registration 9:00—9:30 a.m. (Main Lobby)

Special Guests: **All** elected district and conference officers

Jan Rose
Chairperson

Lana Lathan
Co-Chairperson

Last Call

UMW T-Shirts are still available upon request. Please contact Brenda to make your order. Shirts will also be available at the Annual Meeting in the resource room.

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
ANNUAL MEETING
September 13 - 14, 2002

First United Methodist Church
2550 Monroe Highway
Pineville, LA 71360

Send Registration to: Jeanette McCalman
715 West Palmetto Avenue
Plain Dealing, LA 71064
(318) 326-5921
gjmccalman@juno.com

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW
Pre-registration fee $ 7.50
On-site registration $10.00
Banquet fee $15.00

Name_____
Address_____
_____
Phone: ( )_____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:
( )Conference Office - Specify_____
( )Conference Executive Committee_____
( )District Office - Specify_____
( )Local Unit Member ( )Voting Delegate
( )Former Conference President or Guild Secretary
( )Guest

MEALS: Friday Banquet - $15.00
(Include with registration fee)

( )Friday Lunch ( )Saturday Breakfast ( )Saturday Lunch

Church_____
City_____District_____
Number in local unit_____
Where will you be staying during the meeting?_____
_____
Will child care be needed?_____
Ages of children (None older than 10)_____

NOTE:Registration fee includes the cost of insurance from the time of departure for the meeting until return hom, registration packet & a small part of expense of meeting.(If you plan to attend the banquet on Friday night, money must be included with registration.)

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
September 1, 2002

CONFERENCE UPCOMING EVENTS

2002

August		District Mini-Schools of Mission
September	13-14	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Pineville FUMC, Pineville, LA
October	12	District Elected Leaders Training/DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

2003

January	26	UMW Sunday
February	28	Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting Conference Center
March	1	UMW Conference Retreat Conference Center
March	29	Conference Committee Meetings
July	23-26	UMW Conference School of Christian Mission
October	18	District Elected Leaders Training Conference Center

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. January Newsletter—due date December 3, 2002, May Newsletter—due date April 1, 2003 and August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2003.

Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:
Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805
Fax—225-356-7687 or

E-mail
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXVI No. 1 January 2003

Louisiana United Methodist Women's Retreat
February 28—March 1, 2003
Louisiana Conference Center in Woodworth, LA

Sue C. Johnson
Retreat Leader

The 13th Biennial LA United Methodist Women's Retreat will be held at the LA Conference Center on February 28—March 1, 2003. The retreat has been an outstanding spiritual uplifting time for United Methodist Women since 1979.

This year's retreat leader is none other than Sue C. Johnson. Sue is a Women's Division staff member where she focuses on training conference and district leadership along with numerous staff assignments. Working as a Christian Educator in a local church and learning about United Methodist Women, led Sue to become a part of the Women's Division staff as Executive Secretary for Leadership Education in the Nashville, Tennessee Region. Sue has served in public education and has taught on the college level. She has worked as a photographer and reporter for a county and daily newspaper. Sue is an accomplished artist and has had her paintings exhibited and purchased. Sue received her B.S. Degree from Valley City State University in South Dakota and a Master's Degree and teacher certification in political science from the University of Nebraska.

In addition to presentations by the Retreat Leader Sue C. Johnson, there will be time for solitude, fellowship, and personal reflection. The task group for the 2003 Retreat anxiously awaits God's intervention as we continue to "Sing A New Song." Chairpersons of the retreat are Betty Carlin, Conference Coordinator for Spiritual Growth and Sandy DeCelle, District President for the Monroe District.

Retreat Theme: "Sing A New Song"

Joining The UMW Conference Team for 2003

Jeanne Green

Jeanne will be singing a new song as our Conference Coordinator for Social Action. She has been a part of the Methodist Women's groups since Wesleyan Service Guild. She served as president of the Guild and of United Methodist Women at Bethany UMC. Jeanne has just completed four years as New Orleans District UMW president and assisted in the re-organization of nine units during that period. She is also organizing a teen/college women's unit which will hold its formal organizational meeting on January 19 with at least fourteen members who met in an interest meeting.

Jeanne is Church School Superintendent and member of the Administrative Board at Bethany . She is currently a member of the United Campus Ministry Board at Tulane/Loyola and a member of the W.T. Handy Task Force and Board of Global Ministries.

Jeanne is the widow of Eugene J. Green, Sr., mother of three sons and a daughter and grandmother of seven. She has been a teacher and librarian in the public schools and Government Documents Librarian at Southern University in New Orleans.

Singing a new song of leadership is Staphanae C. Carey, who will be serving as our Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations.

New Members will include:
Dorothy Evans
LaJanice Londro
Ruth H. Butler

Old Familiar Voices Singing Songs of Leadership

President.....Lueburda J. Myers

Vice President.....Kathleen C. Conrad

Treasurer.....Jeanette McCalman

Secretary.....Frances Patton

Education & Interpretation.....Carolyn Colvin

Membership, Nurture & Outreach.....Jo Traweek

Spiritual Growth.....Betty Carlin

Sec. of Program Resources.....Shirley Jacocks

Communications Coordinator.....Brenda Canty

Members of the Committee on Nominations:

Nell Hayes, Class of 2003

Helen B. Green, Class of 2003

Rita M. Parham, Cass of 2004

Donna Law, Class of 2006

Cheryl Milburn, Class of 2006

Historian.....Janet Ward

Standing Rules & Guidelines....Evelyn B. Martin

PURPOSE

OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ: to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

2003 Calendar of Events

January	18	Task Force for Annual Meeting
	26	UMW Sunday
February	28	Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting—LA Conference Center
February	28-1	UMW Retreat– LA Conference Ctr.
March	29	Conference Committee Meetings (Finance, Membership, & Nominations) LA Conference Center
June	21-24	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission
July	23-26	LA Conference School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center
August		District Mimi-Schools of Mission
September	12-13	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting FUMC, Shreveport, LA
October	18	District Elected Leaders Training/ DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome.

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Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Fax—225-356-7687 or

E-mail
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

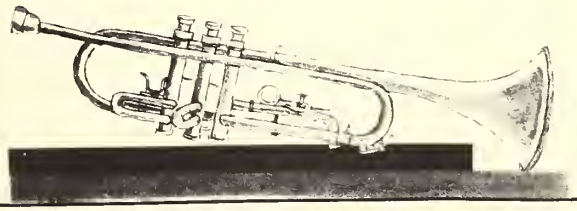
United Methodist Women celebrate UMW Sunday

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will celebrate UMW Sunday, traditionally on Sunday, January 26, 2003. The 2003 theme, "Sing A New Song," is an invitation to membership in a organization of women who are advocates for women, children and youth.

The organization of UMW has been in existence for over 100 years. Today, there are one million plus members in over 25,000 local units in the United States.

Membership in UMW offers participation in and with a unique community of women focused on world-wide mission and encourages the development and use of leadership skills. The national membership campaign goal is to increase membership by 10% in every district around the nation. The conference goal for 2003 is to concentrate special emphasis on teen women, college/university women, young women, newly retired women and women of various racial, cultural and language groups.

The UMW Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate membership and invite others to join. The Conference UMW celebration is made special with the purchase and wearing of UMW Ribbons. Ribbons can be purchased by contacting your District UMW Treasurer. The UMW Ribbon, embossed with logo and theme, are collectors items, and an invitation to membership. Interested women are welcome to join their local church unit, charge group, or to become a district member.



Holidays are over and it's time to look at the new year with anticipation and preparation. The 4th quarter reports are not in as I write this, however, we are about 32% short of meeting our pledge for 2002 at this point. If your District Treasurers have been prodding you for that extra mile giving, don't blame them because I have been urging each of them to do whatever is necessary for LA Conference UMW to meet the pledge. And, I have faith we can do it!

One of the sources for last minute giving has been the news that the basic Special Mission Recognition Pin will go up from $30.00 to $35.00 the first of January. A good many units have ordered their pins for UMW Sunday a little earlier than they might have ordered. Therefore, in preparation for 2003, I would like to suggest that all units get a jump start on their pledge by sending as much as possible for undesignated giving during the 1st quarter. We were short on the 1st quarter in 2002 and that may have been a factor in our coming up short in the 4th quarter.

Connie Takamine, Treasurer of Women's Division has reminded each of us that two special quadrennial emphases for Supplementary Giving have been continued for 2001-2004, "A Brighter Future for Children and Youth" and "Faith Meets Life: Lay Education at Scarritt-Bennett Center.

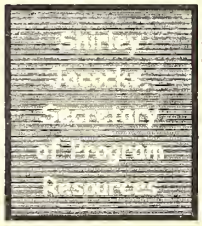
Social Action is Mission

As I begin this 2003 year as Mission Coordinator for Social Action, I am energized by the training I just received at the Leadership Training Event in St. Louis, MO sponsored by the Women's Division. The social action sessions were conducted by Glory Dharmaraj, a very knowledgeable woman who authored a book on missions that has been such a help to me, entitled, *Concepts of Mission.* Her assistants were Susie Johnson, Public Policy, Andris Salter, Environmental Justice, and Marilyn Clement, Economic Justice.

A focus on the entire leadership training event was that social action is mission and has a Biblical basis. In months to come we will explore a few issues of concern for the betterment of our nation and world. We will be concerned about the plight of women, children, and youth everywhere.

The training emphasized our inability to address the myriad of issues needing addressing, so we were advised to tackle only a few issues and work at making lasting systemic (root) changes, when possible.

Again, I remind you that we are organized for mission and social action is mission.



Reading is Fundamental

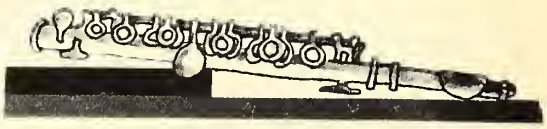
We are beginning a new year in UMW but our Reading Program goes from July to July. This means that we are about mid-way into our reading year with reports due to me by August 15, 2003.

Remember RESPONSE and NEW WORLD OUTLOOK magazines are full of many new ideas and important information. They also are to be included on your reading list.

The 2003 Prayer Calendars are now out and are available from the Service Center (#3179 @ $7.50) or you can get one at the Retreat in February.

Please contact me ASAP if there are any special books or materials that you would like to have available at the Retreat.

Remember that a reading woman is an informed woman and an informed woman is open to the many needs in our world and to the call of God. So read, read, read and SING A NEW SONG FOR GOD!



Announcing

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
2003 School of Christian Mission
Theme: "Crossing Boundaries—Journey In Hope"
Wednesday—Saturday, July 24-26, 2003
PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATES AND REGISTRATION WILL BE FROM 2:00-5:00PM.
THE OPENING PLENARY WILL BEGIN AT 5:00 P.M.

2003 Studies:

Exodus: An African-American Methodist Journey

Creating Interfaith Community

Mexico

Dean: Annette Fortuna

Assistant Dean: Kathleen Conrad

2003 Call To Prayer and Self Denial
Theme: "The Gift of a Lifetime"
The day apart event is to be celebrated during the months of February and / or March. This year's event is highlighting deaconesses and missionaries.
Scripture Lessons: Luke 4:18-19 & Matthew 25:35-36, 40

Newsletter Mailing Labels

The District Secretaries are busy trying to update mailing labels to be sent to the District Communication Coordinators so that the district and conference newsletters can be sent to all desiring one. If you are anyone you know would like to receive this newsletter, please submit the name and address to your respective District Secretary:

Acadiana District.....Nordine Broussard
Alexandria District.....Marlene Anthony
Baton Rouge District.....June Pizzolatto
Lake Charles District.....Margie Hartwell
Monroe District.....Floyce Meyer
New Orleans District.....Doris Happel
North Shore Distric.....Vicki Charbonnet
Ruston District.....Sharon Shepherd
Shreveport District.....Clarice Moore

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED 225

Applications for the Women's Division 2003-2005 Teen Women (ages 12-17) and College Women (ages 18-25) Consultative Group and Adult Women working with Teen/ College Women are available from all District Vice-Presidents. Selection is based upon each applicant's interest, experience, skill and recommendations to serve in their capacity. Each group selected operates under the policies set forth by the Women's Division :

1. Evaluate existing components of the programs with teen or college/university women.
2. Advise regarding resource development for teen women, college/university women or adult women working with these age groups.
3. Develop future goals for working with teens or college/university women in UMW.

All expenses related to serving as a member of a consultative group will be paid by the Women's division.
Application Deadline February 28, 2003.

FOR TRADE 318

Trade a hum-drum life for one of love, fellowship and learning experience, mission work. Join United Methodist Women today! We need you, you need us. There would be no UMW without U.

SALE 985

LA Conference UMW TEE-SHIRTS are still available for purchase. There will be some available at the Retreat.

LA Conference UMW President Honored

Our very own UMW Conference President Lubeurda Myers has received national recognition as an extraordinary RIF (Reading Is Fundamental) volunteer. Lubeurda was selected as the 2002 Central Region Volunteer of the year for her work with children and youth. The RIF program provides books and other essential literacy resources for 3.5 million children whose highest priority is the nation's neediest children, ages birth to 11.

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the LA Conference of United Methodist Women can be summed up in the words of this beautiful ode, presented and written by our own Bishop William Hutchinson:

"Ode to Louisiana United Methodist Women"

The United Methodist Women of the Louisiana Conference have gathered here in
Pineville to make
"le difference." They've come from down New Orleans way
And up in Shreveport too
From Monroe, Lake Charles, Lafayette and even Baton Rouge.
North Shore and Ruston hold up their hands and say
"Don't forget us."
And Alexandria chimes right in, "We too are on the bus!"

They've come to pray, to teach, to show and
Also Sing a New Song.
'Cause they're not content to just be here
They want to show they're strong,
and growing in the Lord each day and deepening their spiritual walk.
You feel it in the way they say
We've learned there's more than talk
To this thing we call faith, and this thing we call service.
Now don't let that make you nervous.

Our bishop wears our service pin and is mighty
Proud to do it.
And Kay is proud to sport one too
It's an honor one might covet.
But coveting's wrong, we all know that
So don't be caught in sin.
Just do your part to serve your Lord and you
Too will wear the pin.

We're proud of all our rank and file, our offices
You've heard of,
But none have captured our hearts and souls like
President Lueburda
She leads with grace and wit and charm
And a healthy dose of order
She's the best we do attest and that's for certain,
Not just "sorter."

So settle back, rest in the Lord, and have a beautiful meeting
It's been my pleasure to bring to you this
Somewhat silly greeting.

Open your hearts you women of God and tell the world "We love ya"
Not the Women of Faith, Not the Sisters of Hope but the Louisiana UMW.

Bishop William W. Hutchinson, 2002

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2003 RETREAT

February 28 - March 1, 2003

Louisiana Conference Center

Name:_____

Address:_____

City & Zip:_____

Phone No. _____

Church:_____

District:_____

Names of Requested Roommates

_____

_____

_____

Special Needs:
No stairs (state reason):_____
Other handicapping conditions:_____

EMERGENCY FORM

Person to notify in case of Emergency:
Name:_____
Address:_____
_____
Phone: ( )_____
Bring with you:
1. Insurance Card
2. Doctor's Name and Phone Number
3. Bring all prescription drugs & OTC drugs you might need.

NOTE: We will dispense NO medications on premises.

Deadline for registration - February 17, 2003

Send Registration to: Jeanette McCalman
715 West Palmetto Avenue
Plain Dealing, LA 71064
(318) 326-5921
gjmccalman@juno.com

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW
Emergency phone number: 318-449-4500

Retreat Registration and Housing Information

All participants will be housed at the Louisiana Conference Center. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis. Rooms have two double beds and bath and there are a limited number of first floor accommodations. Please note special needs on registration form. **Cost is based on number of persons per room and includes registration and meals from Friday lunch through Saturday noon, as well as insurance coverage from the time you leave your home, throughout your stay, to your return home.**

The cost is as follows:

4 to a room $80.00 per person, incl. Tax
3 to a room $85.00 per person, incl. Tax
2 to a room $90.00 per person, incl. Tax

If at all possible, please register together. If, at the last minute, one or more persons in a group are unable to attend, others in that room must pay the difference in room rates. No refunds after February 17.

Due to cafeteria style arrangements for preparing and serving food, special diets are not available. Care will be taken to try to provide low fat, low sodium items at meals.

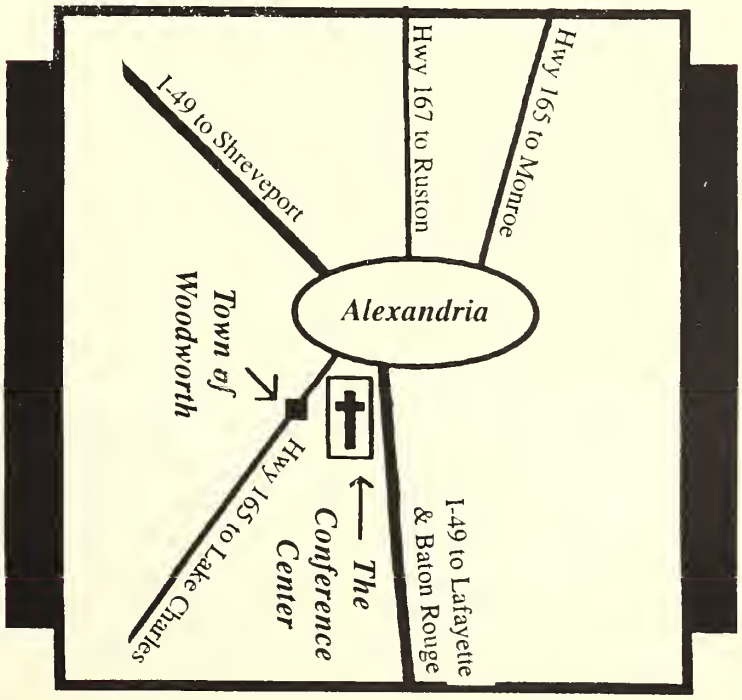
OFFERING - The offering taken at the Retreat will go toward the Conference Pledge to Missions as Undesignated.

DIRECTIONS

From Baton Rouge: take I-10 west toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. Take Woodworth exit off I-49, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles)

From New Orleans: take I-10 west toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. Take Woodworth exit off I-49, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles)

From Shreveport: take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)



Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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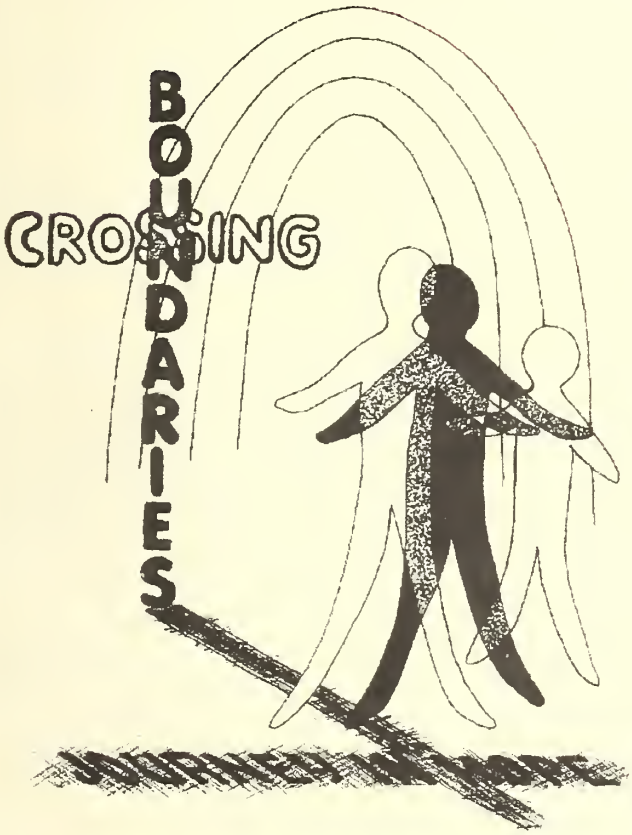
Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXVI No. 2 May 2003

Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission
LA Conference Center, Woolworth, LA
July 23-26, 2003



Early in the Book of Exodus, Moses encounters God in a burning bush and God enlists Moses to lead his people out of bondage in Egypt into a land of freedom and promise. Despite many doubts, Moses returns to Egypt as God's emissary. He battled apathy and disbelief on the part of the Hebrew people and the arrogance of power on the part of Pharaoh. Nevertheless, God supported Moses in his efforts and ultimately led the Israelites out of Egypt. Their suffering and oppression helped bring about a cohesive and supportive community among the Hebrew people.

African slaves identified with the story of Moses leading the Hebrew people to freedom. Through singing and preaching, they developed a theology that helped them cope with their daily tasks and look toward a time of deliverance. Like the Hebrews many centuries earlier, crossing into freedom marked the beginning of a new and often difficult journey. The legacy of oppression still erects boundaries of racism and other "isms". As disciples of Jesus Christ gather at the communion table, we are reminded that this ritual of remembrance has its roots in the Hebrew Passover ritual which marked movement from slavery into freedom.

As God's disciples we seek to testify to the love of God in Jesus Christ, to embody that love in the world, and to respond to the leading of God's Holy Spirit. We seek God's grace in our efforts to understand how to live as Christians in this religiously plural and culturally diverse time and place. The Bible tells of many encounters of the Hebrew people with other religions. Today the spectrum of religious tradition and practice in the United States is wider and more complex than ever before. Yet, for many, interreligious and intercultural relations are an integral part of community and family life. And, in many parts of the world, interfaith relations play a prominent role in politics, economic and social development, community strife or reconciliation. While God has given humanity the gift of relationships, too often humans have erected barriers between people and acted in ways that break or undermine communities. (continue on page 2)

Annette Fortuna
Dean

Kathleen Conrad
Assistant Dean

The boundaries of national borders often keep people apart. Mexico and the United States share a border. People, goods, ideas, money flow across that border. As citizens of one of these two great nations, we seek ways to move beyond border considerations into a better understanding of and relationship with our neighbors in Mexico. Scripture suggest that we should not only feel responsibility for those closest to us, but that we have a responsibility for hospitality to strangers. Despite the risks involved, God calls us to step out boldly across boundaries into unfamiliar territory, to discern God's spirit leading us into new relationships.

Kathleen and I cordially invite all United Methodist Women, Laity, Teen Women and College Women to join us at the 2003 School of Christian Mission for a time of study and worship as we seek to discover new ways to cross boundaries in this journey of hope.

Greetings in the Name of the Risen Christ,

Our United Methodist Women's organization continues to fulfill its PURPOSE and the mission of the CHURCH. The Units are viable across the nine districts of the conference. Viability is reflected in the organization of new units, new circles, and the reorganization of many units. Special thanks to all district presidents for making a concerted effort to respond to our quadrennial emphasis of inviting teenage and college women to join UMW in carrying out our mission. We now have District UMW Units on Southeast University and Centenary College campuses and three other new Teen/University/College Units in the New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Monroe Districts.

Now, let's prepare to explore the theme: "Crossing Boundaries—Journey In Hope" at our 2003 Conference School of Christian Mission. The studies will prove to be educational as well as interesting and motivating. Annette, Kathleen and the school committee have worked untiringly to plan this event. This year we are making a special effort to invite persons who will be teaching in mini-schools of mission to come and certify in the studies. Come and enjoy!

Lueburda Jamison Myers

Conference President

THE LEARNING CENTER

District Sponsored Learning Center Displays will highlight the 2003 Studies. The Learning Center will be located along the hallway of the main lodge.

Mexico
Alexandria District
Monroe District
Ruston District

Exodus
Acadiana District
Lake Charles District
Northshore District

Interfaith Communities
Baton Rouge District
New Orleans District
Shreveport District

Display Set Up & Take Down

A table for each district will be provided. Please bring extension cords, table covering and backdrops as needed. Displays are to be ready for viewing by 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 23, 2003 and taken down Friday night, July 25, 2003.

Carolyn Colvin

Fun Night 2003 = F2

The 2003 SCM fun night will be held on Friday, July 25. We will travel on a "Journey to Freedom" to revisit Mexico and create interfaith communities using the reading program and music along the way. Fun Night will equal Fundamental for Mission and fun for all gathered. Look forward to a wonderful evening.

Rita Parham

2003 Mission Education Events

Acadiana District
August 23, 2003 @
Sager Brown

Alexandria District
October 4, 2003 @
Horseshoe UMC

Baton Rouge District
August 2, 2003 @
Jackson UMC,
Jackson, LA

Lake Charles District
August 24, 2003 @
Squyres, Ragley

Monroe District
August 23, 2003 @
Memoria

New Orleans District
August 2, 2003 @
Kenner

North Shore District
August 9, 2003 @
Church of the Servant in
Mandeville

Ruston District
August 9, 2003 @
Hodge

Shreveport District
August 16, 2003 @
Summer Grove

Textbooks, Study Guides and AV

EXODUS:

Bible Study: *Exodus: An African American Methodist Journey*
Stock #3282 Price $6.00
Bible Study Youth: *Exodus: The Path to Freedom*
Stock #3285 Price $4.00
MEXICO:
Adult Study: *Mexico—Labyrinth of Faith*
Stock #3181 Price $7.50
Map of Mexico
Stock #3187 Price $8.95
Response Magazine May 2002
Stock #3199 Price $1.50
New World Outlook May/June 2002
Stock #3202 Price $3.00
Children's Study: *Pyramids and Pigtails*
Comic Book and Trading Cards
Stock #3184 Price $4.00
(5 for $15.00 or 10 for $25.00)
Teacher's Guide for Children's Study
Stock #3185 Price $6.00
CDRom: *Amazing' Mexico*
Stock #3186 Price $6.00

INTERFAITH COMMUNITIES:

Adult Study : *Creating Interfaith Communities*
Stock #3386 Price $7.50
Response Magazine May 2003
Stock #3393 Price $1.50
Response Magazine November 2000
Stock #3292 Price $1.50
New World Outlook March/April 2002
Stock 3291 Price $3.00
Youth Study: *Who Is That Kid Next Door?*
Stock #3289 Price $6.00
Children's Study: *Seven Friends, Seven Faiths*
Stock #3287 Price $4.00
Teacher's Guide for Children's Study
Stock #3288 Price $6.00
VIDEO: Crossing Boundaries (Covers all 3 studies)
Stock #3290 Price $19.95

All of these listed materials and many additional materials will be showcased at the School of Mission in July. Be sure to visit us in the Resource Area at the Conference Center and check out all the materials we will have on display. If there are any special orders that a district or unit would like to make, please get those in ASAP.

READING PROGRAM UPDATE: We will have a new system for the ordering of the current reading books. Only two copies of each title will be sent for an event. One copy will be designated "Sample Copy" and is not to be taken until the end of the event. However, prepaid orders will be taken and the books will be shipped free from the Service Center. You may use Visa/Mastercard, or check when ordering this way. There are special order forms for this purpose and applies only to the current reading books. Remember reading program reports are due the end of July.

Shirley Gassen Jacocks
Conference SPR

Schedule for the 2003 School of Christian Mission

Wednesday

10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.	Committee Meetings Program, Finance, Executive
2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	Registration
3:00 p.m.—4:45 p.m.	Visit Resource Center
4:00 p.m.—4::30 p.m.	First Timers Meeting
4:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	Community Singing
5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	Opening Plenary I
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:15 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	UMW Focus Officer & Women's Div. Update

Thursday

8:00 a.m.—8:15 a.m.	Community Singing
8:15 a.m.—8:45 a.m.	Plenary II
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.	Classes: Interfaith or Mexico
11:15 a.m.—12 Noon	Visit Resource Center
12 Noon	Lunch
1:30 p.m. —3:30 p.m.	Class: Exodus
3:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m.	Break/Audio Visuals
4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	Classes: Interfaith or Mexico
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	Missionary Moments

Friday

8:00 a.m.—8:15 a.m.	Community Singing
8:15 a.m.—8:45 a.m.	Plenary II
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.	Class: Exodus
11:15 a.m.—12 Noon	Workshops for those planning to lead studies
12 Noon	Lunch
1:15 p.m.—3:15 p.m.	Classes: Interfaith or Mexico
3:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m.	Break/Audio Visuals
4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	Class: Exodus
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	Fun Night

Saturday

8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.	Classes: Interfaith or Mexico
10:15 a.m.—12:15 p.m.	Class: Exodus
12:15 p.m.—12:45 p.m.	Plenary IV—Closing Celebration
	BOX LUNCH

(Morning Praise: 6:45 a.m. & Breakfast 7:00 a.m. Thurs-Sat.)

Introducing the 2003 School of Christian Mission Teachers

Study Leader for the Bible Study - Exodus

Rev. Clifton C. Conrad, Sr. is a native of Baton Rouge, LA. He is a graduate of the University of Southwestern LA with a B.S. Degree in Education and a Master's of Education in Guidance and Counseling. Rev. Conrad is currently a candidate for a Master's of Divinity at Gammon School of Theology. He is the pastor of Calvary UMC in Thibodaux and employed with the Lafayette Parish School System as a Counselor at the W.D. Smith Career Center. Pastor Conrad was past president of the Acadiana District United Methodist Men and the Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors for the LA Conference. Presently he is serving as the co-director of Christian Education for the Acadiana District Mission Team. He and his wife Kathleen have two children, Clifton, Jr. and Chantel.

Study Leaders for the Geographical Study - Mexico

Gloria Tuck Bennett is a native of Monroe, LA and a member of First UMC, where she has been active as teacher, member of Administration Board, member of the Chancel Choir and various other church committees. Gloria is a retired legal secretary and paralegal. She has traveled with the Women's Division mission team to Israel, Palestine and Egypt, other travels include Mexico, Canada, Great Britain and Norway. She volunteers as a Board Member and Treasurer of Twin City Ballet. Gloria is a member of two UMW circles, First UMW, Monroe and McGuire, West Monroe.

Dolores L. Garcia was born and raised in Weslaco, Texas, seven miles from the border of Mexico. She has worked for 39 years in the education system and currently in her fifth year of retirement and loving it. Delores has served as president and vice president on district and conference levels, and treasurer of the Core Planning Group in the South Central Jurisdiction. She is currently a director of the Women's Division and the General Board of Global Ministries. Delores has three children, Ernesto, Beatriz and Joel and five lovely grandchildren.

Study Leaders for the Social Issue Study - Creating Interfaith Communities

Mary Lou Blakeman was born in Sulphur, LA. She was educated at Centenary College and LSU in Shreveport, LA and Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Mary Lou is presently working as a school psychologist in the Juvenile Justice Department in Monroe, LA. In the UMW, Mary Lou has been President and Vice President at the district level; study leader in conference and regional schools; co-author of international study book on Ecclesiastes; LA Conference Annual meeting chairperson; and spiritual retreat speaker for several conferences. Mary Lou is married to a retired United Methodist minister. She is mother of three grown children and grandmother of two girls.

Rev. Dave Fortuna has been a ministry in the Louisiana Conference for 22 years. He received his undergraduate degree from LA Tech in Ruston and his Masters of Divinity from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. Dave is presently serving as pastor of Aldersgate UMC in Slidell and will be moving to Noel Memorial UMC in Shreveport in June. He has been on 15 mission trips to Mexico and missions trips to Costa Rica and Peru. Dave is a pilot and enjoys flying his airplane which he built himself. Dave is married to Annette Fortuna and has two grown daughters. He also became a first time grandfather in April.

Rev. Erica Rene'e Jenkins is a native of Lake Charles. She was nurtured in Warren United Methodist Church. She is a graduate of St. Louis High School and McNeese State University. She completed Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA receiving the Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Counseling and Master of Arts in Christian Education with honors. Rev. Jenkins has served the Jone-Mallalieu-Trinity charge as a prison Chaplain, Emory University Hospital as Chaplain, and Associate Director for Villa International Atlanta, a ministry affiliated with the Center for Dis ease Control and Prevention. Her work and travel to 10 countries reflect her heart for Mission and Evangelism. She is an Elder in full Connection and presently pastor of St. Peter in Jeanerette and Mallalieu in St. Martinville.

Bernadine Johnson is a deacon in full connection and serves as LA Conference Director of Mission Resourcing. She completed basic theological studies at Perkins School of Theology. She is a graduate of the Academy for Spiritual Leadership, through which she was trained as a Labyrinth facilitator, and certified in Spiritual Direction. She is co-leader of the Companions in Christ group at Francis Asbury UMC, Baton Rouge. Bernie is a native of New Orleans. She has an undergraduate degree from California State University, Los Angeles, and a juris doctorate degree from Whittier College School of Law. She is employed as an attorney in public service.

Rev. John R. Johns was born in Shreveport, LA. He is a graduate of Centenary College and Perkins School of Theology. He is married and the father of two sons. John has served churches throughout the LA conference and has served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Church and Society and chairman of the Conference Communications Committee. A few years ago he felt a call to do something in the area of restorative justice. In 2000 he retired from active ministry and became Coordinator of Restorative Justice Ministries for the LA Annual Conference. He was commissioned as a 10-10-10 missionary with the Board of Global Ministries in the field of Restorative Justice.

Dr. Gregory S. Neal is an ordained United Methodist minister in the North Texas Conference, currently serving as Senior Pastor of First UMC, Seagoville, and as Adjunct Professor of Biblical Greek at Perkins School of Theology. Dr. Neal attended Southern Methodist University, earning a B.A. in History, Russian Language and Theology, attended Duke University, earning the M.Div. and Ph.D in Systematic Theology. He is author of *Grace Upon Grace*, a book which deals with Methodist approaches to Grace and Sacraments. Dr. Neal is a widower, and spends much of his free time traveling, by ship, all over the world.

Teen Women (Youth) Study Leader

Linda Ann Carter Joseph was born in Port Allen, LA. She graduated form Southern University with a degree in Vocational Home Economics and a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling. Linda is currently enrolled in Gammon Seminary School through ITC at Dillard University in New Orleans, LA. She is a member of Neely UMC in Baton Rouge where she serves as coordinator of the Outreach Ministry Program. She has served in the Prison Ministry Program with the Honorable Judge Bob Downing and is certified through Jetson Correctional Facility to serve with the Epiphany Ministry of LA. In her missionary endeavors, Linda has traveled with volunteers in missions to Rio Bravo, Mexico and Cape Town South Africa. Linda is married to Ulysses Joseph and they have two sons, Bryant and Andre.

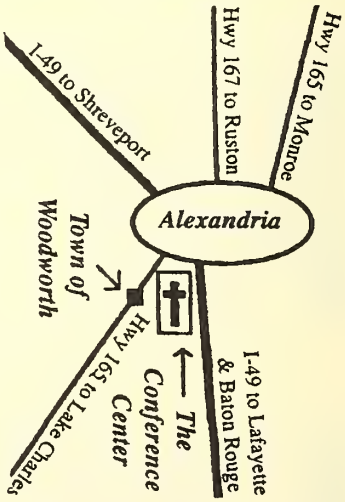
Debra Peplow will also be working with the Teen Women (Youth) Study.

School Committee

Dean/Communications Coordinator.....Annette Fortuna
Assistant Dean.....Kathleen Conrad
President/Officer Update.....Lueberda Myers
Vice President/Officer Update.....Kathleen Conrad
Secretary/Officer Update.....Frances Patton
Registration/Business Manager.....Jeanette McCalman
Housing.....Evelyn Evans
Spiritual Growth /Worship Center, Table Graces & Morning Praise.....Betty Carlin
Social Action/Officer Update.....Jean Green
Education & Interpretation/ Officer Update.....Carolyn Colvin
Membership Nurture Outreach/Officer Update.....Jo Traweek
Program Resources/Literature Display & Sales.....Shirley Jacocks
Fun Night.....Rita Parham
Learning Center.....Carolyn Colvin
Music Leader/Pianist.....Dorothy Pennington
Local Arrangements.....Jimmie Ussery & Lena French
First Aid Volunteer.....Kathleen Thoms
Audio Visual.....Brenda Canty

ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE SCHOOL OF MISSION

DIRECTIONS: **From Baton Rouge**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49, From I-49, take Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles) **From New Orleans**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles). **From Shreveport**, take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)



COMING ATTRACTION

The Shreveport District invites you to begin now preparing to attend the LA Conference United Methodist Women's Annual Meeting. This event will be held at First United Methodist Church in Shreveport, LA, September 19-20, 2003.

Participants will include: Joyce Sohl, our Deputy General Secretary of Women's Division as the guest speaker; Bishop William Hutchinson, our Resident Bishop as Communion speaker; the First Lady, Kaye Hutchinson as song leader; and the Centenary Choir performing Saturday morning for Communion Service.

You just MUST be there. Details will appear in the August Newsletter.

Two Big Pushes for E & I

There are two very important qualifying programs coming soon in the area of Education & Interpretation—the Mission Study and Mission Today Unit Certificates - The applications list the requirements and are available from the District Coordinators of E & I. The study certificates for 2003 are due to the District Coordinators on June 1. Please note that there are two types of certificates—one for Recognition of Study which requires that the unit spend two hours on the study and perform an action resulting from the study; the other is Excellence of Studies which requires four hours of study on each of the two studies and an action resulting from each study. As a requirement of Women's Division, the actions resulting from the studies must be something outside the church and must be named and described in details on the application to qualify.

The certificates for Mission Today participation also is of two types, the silver and gold. The silver requires the completion of eight of the items listed and the gold requires completion of twelve. These are not difficult standards to complete, in fact, most of them are things your units are already doing. Check these sheets now and see how many your unit lacks to quality for the certificate and let's have 100% participation in this basic program.

Shalom
Carolyn Colvin
Conference E&I Coordinator

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED 225

Interested in being in Mission? Surrender you Campbell's Soup labels at the School of Christian Mission for St. Marks Community Center. Contact you District President for specific brands and label collecting specifics.

ASAP HELP 318

Items to be collected at the 2003 Annual Meeting in Shreveport are School Kits as outlined in the Material Resources for Mission Catalog, page 35. Start now collecting those items. This project is in support of Women's Division Projects in the Louisiana Conference (Dulac Community Center, Macdonell UM Children's Services and St. Marks Community Center). A display and list of supplies to be collected will be available for viewing at the School of Mission in July.

NEEDED 504

Teen and College/University Women at the School of Christian Mission, July 23-27, 2002 in Woodworth LA. Scholarships are available. For details see the Estelle Dameron Scholarship application in the edition or contact your District Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator or District President.

Personal care items for women and children. Items needed are as follows: Bath soap, small bottles of shampoo and conditioners, deodorant, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes (with holders if possible) and washcloths. These items will be packed in Ziploc bags and distributed to women and children in need. There will be a collection box in the registration area at the School of Mission in July.

Treasure These Words

Louisiana Conference UMW met their pledge for 2002! Give yourselves a huge hand! Please note that this is not a small achievement, considering the economic situation. Even more impressive is the fact that our Undesignated Giving for the first quarter of 2003 is better than that for the same period in 2002. Isn't God Good! Everyone is to be blessed and congratulated.

All Unit Presidents and Treasurers have received a form for recording gifts to keep the Mission Candle burning during Annual Meeting and also information on honoring our retiring District and Conference Officers, therefore, place this item on your agenda for completion.

A final word to the wise—get your registration for the School of Mission in as soon as possible. There are limited number of rooms at the Conference Center and these will be assigned on a first-come basis.

Jeanette McCalman
Conference Treasurer

THE ESTELLE DAMERON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women annually provides interested women an opportunity to attend its School of Christian Mission through the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship was founded in 1981 and honors the late Estelle Darsey Dameron, 1906 - 1996. The scholarship continues to grow in Mrs. Dameron's honor through gifts, special offerings, and yearly contributions from local UMW units. This tradition is even more important as we prepare for mission in the year 2001 and beyond.

The Membership Nurture & Outreach Committee is encouraging young, seasoned, energetic, single, married, employed, homemakers, students or newly retired women to apply for a scholarship. Applicants can come from a large or small unit and we will also consider persons other than members of United Methodist Women. Getting women interested in mission at an early age and at new life stages is one way to insure the vitality and growth of an educated, mission minded membership. Please urge women in these age/interest categories to apply. All applicants should indicate a willingness to attend and participate fully in all activities of the school. One applicant per unit and **first timers ONLY** should send a completed application form with a written statement of 50 words or more, entitled: ***I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because...***

Applications must be postmarked by June 7, 2003 and mailed to:

Jo Traweek
110 Pinewood Dr.
West Monroe, LA 71291

Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant _____ Phone ( ) _____

Applicant's Address _____ State_____Zip _____

Unit (church) Name _____ District _____

Unit President or Contact Person _____

President or Church Address _____ State_____Zip _____

(1) Has applicant attended a School of Christian Mission before?
- ❑ Yes
- ❑ No

(2) Applicant's age grouping:
- ❑ High School
- ❑ under 35
- ❑ 36-50
- ❑ 51 and older

(3) Employment:
- ❑ Full time
- ❑ Part time
- ❑ Retired
- ❑ Student
- ❑ Homemaker

(4) Applicant's choice of study:
- ❑ Mexico
- ❑ Interfaith Communities

CONFERENCE UPCOMING EVENTS

June	21-24	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission Abilene, TX
July	23-26	LA Conference School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center
August		District Mini-Schools of Mission
September	19-20	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Shreveport, LA
October	18	District Elected Leaders Training/DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2002.
Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:
Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805
Fax—225-356-7687 or

E-mail
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
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Brenda Canty, Editor
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Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXVI No. 3 August 2003

The 30th Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting September 19—20, 2003

The 30th Annual Meeting of the LA Conference United Methodist Women will convene at 1:00 p.m., Friday, September 19, 2003 in the sanctuary of First United Methodist Church, Shreveport, LA.

Conference President, Lueburda Myers, will preside over the meeting. Dr. Pat Day, Senior Minister of First United Methodist Church, Shreveport, Dr. William Peeples, Shreveport District Superintendent and Sue Dykes, local UMW Unit President will welcome members and guests.

Gladys Prillerman, Shreveport District President and Carolyn Colvin, Conference Education & Interpretation Coordinator will present the program. Vela McCormick, Local Arrangements Chairperson will give announcements..

The theme "Peace" is based on the scripture text from Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the Peacemakers". The theme hymn, *This Is My Song* will be sung at the opening of each session and the closing hymn will be *Let There Be Peace on Earth.*

Joyce D. Sohl, Deputy General Secretary of the Women's Division will serve as guest speaker at the Friday evening banquet and the Saturday morning session. The Saturday morning session will feature the Centenary College Choir under the direction of Dr. Will Andress.

Devotional Meditations will be delivered by Rev. Ellen Montegudo, Pastor of Coushatta-Wesley Chapel and Rev. Kenneth Fisher, Pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church, Shreveport. Bishop William Hutchinson will deliver the Communion Meditation and Dr. Pat Day will serve as Communion Celebrant.

The ladies throughout the Shreveport District invite you to come and accept Jesus' gift of peace and claim God's promise of shalom for the world.

Gladys Prillerman
Chairperson

Carolyn Colvin
Co-Chairperson

(The logo depicting the theme "Peace" was designed by Tommie Simmons of 1st UMC, Shreveport).

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING 2003!

PEACE! What a perfect theme for such a time as these. As united Methodist Women, we have taken up arms in prayer and we invite others to join our peace vigil. We are truly blessed to be

Americans where we have the opportunity to publicly serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ without reprisal. And it is by choice that the Untied Methodist Women's organization is one of our main venues for rendering service to others in the name of the Lord with particular emphasis upon women, children and youth.

When we convene our 30th Annual Meeting on September 19, 2003 at 1st UMC in Shreveport to celebrate our rich heritage in mission and the works and accomplishments of our 275 plus local units across the nine districts of the conference, only a few months will have passed since the sons and daughters of our nation marched off to war in defense of world peace. By the grace of God most of them have not only survived, but are stronger and more determined to serve mankind. This is UMW's commitment also to serve mankind and to continue to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Let us come in record numbers and welcome our guest speaker, Joyce D. Sohl, Deputy General Secretary of Women's Division with open arms and warm southern hospitality.

Special thanks to Gladys, Carolyn and the Annual Meeting Planning Committee for their diligence in preparation for this occasion. This summon to Annual Meeting is a formal invitation to all United Methodist Women, all Methodists across the conference and guests to be a part of this celebration as we continue to pray for "Peace" in our world.

In the love of Christ.

Lueburda Jamison Myers

Conference President

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING FACTS AND FOCUS

The Peace Pole which will be a focal point during this celebration was designed and constructed by George McCalman, husband of Jeanette McCalman, Conference Treasurer . They are members of First United Methodist Church, Plain Dealing.

The registration form is included in this newsletter, Please complete and return to Jeanette McCalman with the proper remittance by September 5, 2003. Each person who registers (attends) including all officers, must pay the $8.00 registration fee. This fee includes the insurance that will cover you from the time you leave home, throughout the meeting and your return home. Please be sure to indicate if you need child care service for this event. Child care will not be available during the banquet.

On the registration form please check the boxes that will indicate what meals you will be eating at 1st UMC. A Continental Breakfast will be served at the church in Bain Hall in the Hunter Building on Saturday morning from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. If you plan to eat breakfast at the hotel, let them know when you check-in. Sandwiches will be available on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on Saturday after the Communion Service.

The banquet is on Friday evening at the Sheraton Hotel, 6:30 p.m. You must pre-register for this meal. The cost is $20.00 per person, please indicate this on the registration form and include that amount. There will be NO refunds.

The planned menu is:

Chicken Breast with a sauce
Rice Pilaf
Medley of Vegetables
Tossed Green Salad
Dinner Rolls
Key Lime Pie
Iced Tea Coffee

First Lady, Kay Hutchinson will provide the music for the banquet. Banquet table decoration will be provided by local churches on the Shreveport District.

A Pre-Executive Committee meeting will be held Thursday, September 18, 2003 at St. Luke UMC, 6912 Youree Dr., Shreveport, LA, 6:30 p.m.

Post-Executive Committee meeting will be held in Room 101 of the Hunter Building immediately following the Communion Service on Saturday. (Includes all newly elected and returning officers).

HOUSING INFORMATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Headquarter Hotel -
Sheraton Shreveport Hotel
1419 East 70th St.
Shreveport, LA 71105
Phone: 318-797-9900
1-800-321-4182
Fax: 318-798-0822

Room Rates:

Single	$78.00 plus tax	Triple	$ 98.00 plus tax
Double	$88 .00 plus tax	Quad	$108.00 plus tax

Rollaway: $10.00 a night

All room reservations must be made by **September 5, 2003**. Tell the reservation clerk that you are with the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Church.
A hospitality room will be available at the hotel for those persons who are not registered at the hotel.

DIRECTIONS:

Coming from the South on I-49:
To the Sheraton—exit 202—East 70th St. Exit to the right and go 1.6 miles. Hotel will be on the right.

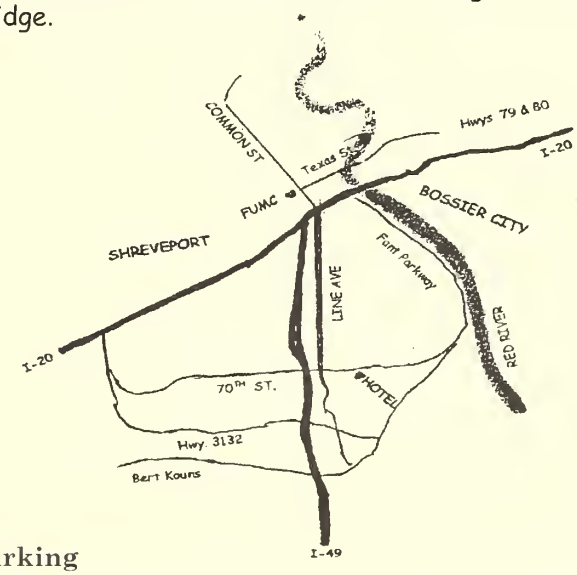
To the Church from the Hotel:
Enter 70th St. very carefully as you turn left across two lanes of traffic. Go 1.2 miles to Line Ave. Turn right and continue on Line Ave. 4.5 miles. As you pass under the interstate the street name will change to Common St. You will be able to see the Church steeple.

From I-49 directly to the Church:
Where I-49 joins I-20 follow the Monroe signs. Continue in the right lane which will say Common St./Line Ave. Exit. Remain in the same lane which will be marked Common St. As you pass under the interstate you will be able to see the Church steeple.

From I-20—coming from the East:
You may take the Spring St. exit at the end of the Red River bridge, which will be turning right.
You will need to move into the left lane by the third street. This will be Texas St. and you will need to turn left. The Church is at the head of Texas St.

Or, you may take the next exit which is Common St./ Louisiana Ave. It goes off to the right, but be aware that other traffic is merging on your right. Follow the Common St. signs. The Church steeple will be in sight.

Highway 79 and 80, from the east, come across the Red River on the Texas St. bridge and the Church is at the head of Texas and will be in sight from the bridge.



Parking

There are parking lots with entrances from Texas St. across Common St. from the Church. There are parking lots behind the Church and on the north side of the Hunter Building. **The Methodist Men** are to be on hand to assist with the parking. Handicapped parking will be by the side of the Church on Sprague St. Golf Carts will be available for those who need help. The elevator door is on the Sprague St. side of the Church, near the alley.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Head of Texas street
Shreveport, LA

Registration:

Registration will begin at the church in the Hunter Building at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 19, 2003. Signs will be posted to direct you to registration tables. Each district will have a table and someone from your district (president and treasurer) will be there to assist you.

Retired Missionaries and Deaconesses residing within the Louisiana Conference may attend the Annual Meeting at conference expense (which includes housing and travel) but must send their own registration form and pay their own registration and banquet fees.

PROGRAM
"Peace"
Scripture—Matthew 5:9
Song Leader, Kay Hutchinson
Organist, Josh Melson
Pianist, Becky Gerardy

FRIDAY AFTERNOON	1:00 P.M.
Musical Prelude	
Processional of Conference Officers	Hymn #57
Invocation	Betty Carlin
Convening of the 29th Annual Meeting	Lueburda Myers
Affirming our Purpose	Norma Winegeart
Opening Hymn	Hymn #437
Welcome	
Presentation of Program	Gladys Prillerman and Carolyn Colvin
Recognition of Visitors	Lueburda Myers
Lighting of Mission Candle	Shirley Hoffpauir Jeanette McCalman
Opening Meditation	Rev. Ellen Montegudo
Song	Hymn #99
Announcements	Velda McCormick

******BREAK******

UMW Sings	Kay Hutchinson
BUSINESS SESSION	
Appointed to Examine Journal	
Mission Team Reports	Conference Officers
Committee on Nominations	Stephenae Carey
Election of Officers	
President's Report	
Greetings from Jurisdiction	Sandra Darby Pat Cobb
Church Women United	Gail Anders
Project Leader's Reports	
Service for Retiring Officers	Janelle McCammon
Closing Hymn	Hymn #431

Close of the Afternoon Session—4:30 p.m.
Reconvene 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel for the Banquet

FRIDAY EVENING BANQUET PROGRAM	6:30 P.M.
Music by Kat Hutchinson	
Welcome	Carolyn Colvin
Words of Grace	Gladys Prillerman
Dinner	
Introduction of Speaker	Kathleen Conrad
Evening Message	Joyce Sohl
Announcements & Benediction	Velda McCormick

SATURDAY MORNING	8:30 A.M.
UMW Sings	Kay Hutchinson
Opening Hymn	Hymn #437
Opening Prayer #481	Led by Katie McKay
Devotional	Rev. Kenneth Fisher
Litany	Led by Elizabeth Coody & Ashley Lacy
Introduction of Speaker	Kathleen Conrad
Message	Joyce Sohl
Pledge Service	Jeannette McCalman
Offertory Prayer	
Doxology	
Registration Report	Patty Lindsey
Recognition of Teen & College Women	Jo Traweek
Special Mission Recognition	Lueburda Myers
Installation of Officers	Doris Henderson
Invitation to the 2004 Annual Meeting	
Announcements	
Adjournment of Annual Meeting	

******BREAK******

Special Music	Centenary College Choir Dr. Will Andress, Director
Communion Meditation	Bishop William Hutchinson
Holy Communion	Dr. Pat Day, Communion Celebrant
Assistants: Rev. Ellen Alston	Dr. Willie Henry
Rev. Bonita Davis	Rev. Sandra Huber
Rev. Kenneth Fisher	Rev. Theresa McConnell
Rev. Frances Freeman	Dr. William Peeples
Closing Hymn	Hymn #431
Postlude	

School Kit items for Women's Division Projects at Dulac Community Center, Macdonnell United Methodist Children's Services, and St. Mark's Community Center are to be brought to the Annual Meeting in September as outlined on page 35 in the Material Resources for Mission Catalog.

Church Women United Health Kits will also be presented at the Annual Meeting in September.

Special thanks to ALL, who brought toiletries to the School of Christian Mission in July. The items collected were taken to Hope House in Alexandria (a shelter for women and children).

Introducing the 2003 Annual Meeting Program Participants

Joyce D. Sohl

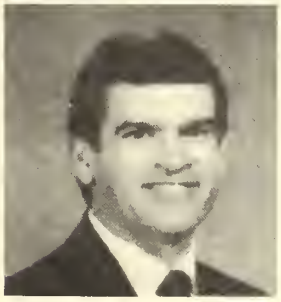
Joyce D. Sohl, is a native of Nebraska. Joyce assumed the position of Deputy General Secretary of the Women's Division in 1991 after joining the Women's Division staff as Treasurer in 1976. Her primary responsibilities include personnel, policy, and ecumenical relations. She is the official spokesperson for the Division. Joyce was also a director of the Division, serving as Vice President and chairperson of the Section of Finance. She is a member of Scarrit-Bennett Center Board of Directors and the Bennett College Board of Trustees. She is author of *Managing Your Money: A Workbook on Women and Personal Finance,* and *A Journey in Song: Lenten Meditations on Hymns by Women.* Her church membership is with Memorial United Methodist Church in White Plains, New York. Joyce was married to the late Lowell Sohl, and she has two sons, John and Stephen.

Bishop William W. Hutchinson
LA Conference

Bishop William W. Hutchinson is the presiding Bishop of the Louisiana Conference . He came to us from the New Mexico Conference Foundation. Bishop Hutchinson received his B.A. Degree from the University of Oklahoma, a Masters of Divinity from Duke University, and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from McMurray University. He is a member of the General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the Division of Ordained Ministry. He and his wife Kay have two sons, John and Mark and one granddaughter, Madison Ann, daughter of Mark and Laura. Bishop Hutchinson will deliver the Communion Meditation.

Rev. William D. Peeples
Shreveport District
Superintendent

Rev. William D. Peeples has been Superintendent of the Shreveport District since 1999. He received his B.A. from Centenary College, a B.A. from Perkins School of Theology and a Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Centenary College. He and his wife Fane are the parents of two children and three grandsons. Rev. Peeples will bring greetings on behalf of the Shreveport District.



Dr. R. Pat Day
Host Pastor

Dr. R. Pat Day has served as Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church since 1992. He received his B.A. from Austin College, Sherman, Texas. He attended Perkins School of Theology where he earned both a Masters of Theology and Doctor of Ministry Degree. He and his wife Rosemary are the parents of two children.

Rev. Ellen D. Montegudo

Rev. Ellen D. Montegudo is the Pastor of Coushatta-Wesley Chapel . She is an Ordained Elder with a B.A. from Centenary College, a M.A. from Louisiana Tech., and a Masters of Divinity from Perkins School of Theology. She is a Certified Spiritual Director and has been the pastor of local churches for 18 years. She is the parent of two children and two grandchildren.
Rev. Montegudo will bring the opening meditation.

Rev. Kenneth M Fisher

Rev. Kenneth M. Fisher is the Pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church. He is an Ordained Elder with a B.A. in Religion and Philosophy from Centenary College and a Masters of Divinity from Gammon Theological Seminary. He has been a pastor since 1967. He and his wife Joan are the parents of two children and five grandchildren. Rev. Fisher will bring the Saturday morning devotional.

Kay A. Hutchinson
Song Leader

Kay A. Hutchinson will serve as our Song Leader for the Annual Meeting. Kay received her Masters of Art in Vocal Performance from New Mexico State University. She married the Bishop, August 30, 1964. We are honored to have the Bishop and the First Lady as program participants.

Velda McCormick
Local Arrangements
Chairperson

The Centenary College Choir is affiliated with Centenary College of Louisiana in Shreveport. It was founded in 1825, and is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Centenary College is the oldest chartered Liberal Arts College west of the Mississippi River. Known as America's Singing Ambassadors, the Choir has traveled world-wide. A new choir building on the campus greeted the Choir in the fall of 2002, including the Carruth Rehearsal Hall.

Dr. Will K. Andress is in his 30th year as Director. Dr. Andress is an Ordained Clergy in the UMC and is also Director of the First Church Choir. Serving as our organist is Josh Melson. He is one of the accompanists of the choir and is also Assistant Organist at First Church. Our pianist is Becky Gerardy, she was a member of the Centenary Choir and was the accompanist from 1969-1972. She is a member of Noel Memorial United Methodist Church.

2003 MISSION RIBBON

The mission ribbons will be available at the Annual Meeting Registration area. You may write or call Jeannette McCalman, Conference Treasurer, to find out the availability of the ribbons you need. At that time, the ribbons will be set aside for you and held until Annual Meeting, or until you send your payment. Write to 715 W. Palmetto Ave., Plain Dealing, LA 71064, or call 318-226-5921. Or you may e-mail gjmccalman@juno.com. All proceeds will go toward our Conference Pledge to Mission. This year's design is the same as our program logo. Also, there will be a limited number of mission ribbons from past years available.

MISSION CANDLE

2003 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	**$ .63**
1 MINUTE	**$ 37.80**
5 MINUTES	**$ 189.00**
1 HOUR	**$2,268.00**

The lighting of the MISSION CANDLE will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 13-14, 2002, at Pineville UMC in Pineville, LA. The Candle was first burned at the 1079 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the Tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present and future as women organized for mission.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY** or **IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. This goal can be realized if every unit gives 1 minute or more for the MISSION CANDLE. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift required. All monies are incorporated into each District's PLEDGE TO MISSION.

Please use this form to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the Form with your check to your District Treasurer by September first.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT - (If more space is needed, attach additional sheets. DO NOT write on back)

Individual/Unit submitting form:

Church: _____ District: _____

City: _____ Phone: ( ) _____

Given By: Name of Individual/Unit In HONOR of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Given By: Name of Individual/Unit In MEMORY of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____

Mission Offering: On the Saturday morning of Annual Meeting an offering will be taken for Undesignated Giving. Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the "Mission Candle" and "One Second of Your Time" as you honor loved ones. These gifts help increase our Gift to Mission and keep the Mission Candle burning as long as possible during the Annual Meeting.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE RETIRING OFFICERS

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of year to contribute to a **Special Offering** in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in United Methodist Women. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "Thank you" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will apply to your District's **PLEDGE TO MISSION.**

Your contributions in the past have been very generous. The retiring officers appreciate this acknowledgement of their service in mission. We know you will want to continue this fine tradition and participate in honoring those women who are retiring this year.

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their annual meetings in October and November.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son... John 3:16

WORLD THANK OFFERING

What a wonderful gift God gave us, and what a better way to show our thanks than through our gifts to the World Thank Offering during October. On the next two pages of this newsletter you will find your October calendar and 31-Derful Ways To Say Thanks. Isn't it fun to use it each day to collect the money we will use for this offering? Drop the coins into a small box or jar each day and watch it accumulate. Then bring it to your Unit Meeting when you have the World Thank Offering Service.

October 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WEEK 1 PRAY FOR PEACE			1 *...God, our source of peace,... Romans 15:33*	2 *...my peace I give unto you. John 14:27*	3 *...the fruit of the spirit is... peace... Galatians 5:22*	4 *...preaching peace by Jesus Christ... Acts 10:36*
5 **WEEK 2 PRAY FOR HUMILITY**	6 *...whoever humbles himself will be made great. Matthew 23:12*	7 *...God...gives grace to the humble. James 4:6*	8 *...accept humble duties. Romans 12:16*	9 *My sacrifice is a humble spirit, O God. Psalms 51:17*	10 *Be always humble... Ephesians 4:2*	11 *The greatest...is the one who humbles himself... Matthew 18:4*
12 **WEEK 3 PRAY WITH THANKS**	13 *...be filled with thanksgiving. Colossians 2:7*	14 *...giving thanks to God. Colossians 4:2*	15 *Let us thank God for his priceless gift! 2Corinthians 9:15*	16 *...I will give you thanks because you are good. Psalms 54:6*	17 *Give thanks to him and praise him. Psalms 100:4*	18 *Thanks be to God,... Romans 7:25*
19 **WEEK 4 PRAY FOR JUSTICE**	20 *By him we are put right with God,... I Corinthians 1:30*	21 *God puts people right through their faith in Jesus ... Romans 3:22*	22 *He will persist until he causes justice to triumph, Matthew 12:20*	23 *...to judge with your righteousness, O God; Psalms 72:1*	24 *...you have established justice... Psalms 99:4*	25 *...let justice flow like a stream... Amos 5:24*
26 **WEEK 5 PRAY FOR MERCY**	27 *...his heart was filled with pity for them... Matthew 9:36*	28 *Jesus was filled with pity and reached out ... Mark 1:41*	29 *Happy are those who are merciful to others... Matthew 5:7*	30 *For the Lord is full of mercy. James 5:11*	31 *...you have... compassion for one another Philippians 2:1*	

31-DERFUL WAYS TO SAY THANKS

DAY 1. God has promised to be with us in times of oppression. If you believe this give 15 cents.

DAY 2. DELT is a training program for District Officers to prepare for training local leaders at LELT. Give 10 cents if you attended LELT and 25 cents if not.

DAY 3. If your church has made an effort to initiate interfaith activities in your community, give 10 cents. If not, but you plan to, give 15 cents. If not, give 25 cents.

DAY 4. Women's Division has recommended that all units use "Responding to God's Grace", a policy statement on giving, for at least one program during the year. If your unit has done this, give 15 cents. and 25 cents if your unit has not.

DAY 5. Many women have none of the necessities to care for their new born child. If you have prepared, or paid for, a layette kit through UMCOR, give 10 cents and if not, give 25 cents.

DAY 6. Resolutions effecting women and children will be considered at the General Conference. Study these, let your delegates know how you feel and then add 20 cents to your World Thank Offering box.

DAY 7. Nearly everyone in the United States has a multi-racial heritage. Give 5 cents for each person of a different ethnic or racial heritage that you have prayed with or prayed for in the past week.

DAY 8 For every church in your city/community of a different faith, give 3 cents. If there are none, give 15 cents.

DAY 9 John Wesley was anti-slavery and fought to put an end to it in England . If you have taken a stand on an issue because God has required it of you, and been persecuted for it, give 5 cents. If you have not, give 25 cents.

DAY 10. Schools of Christian Ministry help us expand our knowledge of the needs of others and how we can help them. Give 10 cents if you attended the Conference School, 20 cents for the District school and 30 cents for your unit study.

DAY 11 UMW offers many avenues for giving, serving and ministry. Give 5 cents for each area of 5-Star Giving you supported in the past year.

DAY 12. Retired women are a powerful source of energy and talent. If you are a retired woman, give 5 cents for each office you have held or service performed in UMW during the past year. If you are related to a retired woman in UMW, give 20 cents.

DAY 13. War ravaged countries need help to restore homes and families. Give 15 cents if you or your church have supported the restoration.

DAY 14. Give 5 cents for each time you smiled at a stranger today.

DAY15. We should be open and welcoming to all of God's children because we are all one. Give 20 cents for each person of another racial heritage you have invited to your church. Give 40 cents if you have invited no one.

DAY 16 Give 10 cents for each book you have read from the Reading List in 2003.

DAY 17. Church Women United celebrates World Day of Prayer, a witnes to all peoples, in March. Give 10 cents if you attended and 20 cents if not.

DAY 18. The Marines are looking for 'A few good men'. UMW are looking for "A few good women" Give 2 cents for each new member your Unit added in 2003.

DAY 19. Clean water has become a concern in Niger and Bangladesh. If you have taken steps to conserve our water supply give 10 cents and give 15 if not.

DAY 20. Every member of UMW should have and be familiar with the pamphlet, "Social Principles of the United Methodist Church" for 2001 - 2004. This will spell out the stand of the church on many critical issues. Give 15 cents if you have a copy and 25 cents if you do not, and get one as soon as possible.

DAY 21. Racism is a sin which teaches salvation is by "race" rather than by "grace". If you believe this give 15 cents. Give 45 cents if you do not.

DAY 22. Undesignated giving makes it possible for Women's Division to do the most, for the most, in the most places. If you pledged for 2003 give 15 cents and if you did not, give 30 cents.

DAY 23. UMW Retreats give opportunities for women to experience spiritual growth. If you attended either Conference or District Retreats give 20 cents and 5 cents if not.

DAY 24. Response Magazine has been a source of Mission information to UMW members for a long time. If you subscribe/read Response, give 15 cents. If you do not, give 25 cents and get on their mailing list by subscribing..

DAY 25. Spreading God's love and God's word, along with material gifts has always been a goal for UMW. If your unit took action after the last mission study, give 5 cents and 15 cents if not..

DAY 26. Using the Prayer Calendar keeps us in contact with those in mission. Give 15 cents if your Unit uses it and 10 cents if YOU use it.

DAY 27. Your Pledge added to those of 1 million other women, gives God the means to care for His children. If you increased your pledge in 2003 give 5 cents and 25 cents if not.

DAY 28. Special Mission Recognition Pins are a way to say "You Are Special" to a loved one. Give 10 cents if you gave one and 20 cents if you received one in 2003.

DAY 29. There are all new Gift to Mission Cards, including one for Christmas. Each one represents a $5.00 gift. Try them, you'll like them! And give God a gift today of 5 cents.

DAY 30. A Gift in Memory card when a friend or relative has gone to be with the Lord, is a memorial from the heart. If you have given one of these recently, give 10 cents, and give 20 cents if not.

DAY 31. There have been 31 opportunities to say "Thank You" to God during October. If you have used this calendar, for that purpose give 31 cents. If you have failed to, give 62 cents.

READ READ READ

Read! Read! Read! The same message but from a different messenger in 2004. It is so very hard to believe that this will be my last words to you as your Conference Secretary of Program Resources. These last four years have really gone by quickly. I want to thank each of you for giving me the opportunity to serve in this office. It has been a wonderful experience from attending leadership training event, participating in Regional Schools, ordering and preparing for displays at SCM and Annual Meetings, to shipping unsold items back to the Service Center. I have made many friends while serving as your Conference SPR. It is very clear that everyone serves to promote the purpose of UMW. It has truly been an inspiration to have been a part of this endeavor.

The Reading Program has grown steadily over the years and I believe that it will continue to do so under the leadership of our new SPR. It is now time to start reading for the year 2004 (our reading year goes from August to July). You many count the books from 1999-2004 and the new 2004 books will be available at Annual Meeting in September. I do hope that everyone has sent their 2003 report to their District SPR and that every unit had more readers and more books read than last year. This year we will be able to order any current reading books (2003 at SCM and 2004 at Annual Meeting) and they will be sent to you postage paid. However, the only requirements are they must be purchased at an event, they must be pre-paid, and you must order at least two books. You can pay by cash, check or credit card.

As always when saying farewell, there are so many people to thank for giving help and assistance. Thanks to the District SPR's, thanks to all who helped me set up, sell materials, handle money, bought materials, packed and loaded, stored materials, and prayed for me. A special thanks to the Conference Center Staff and all the staffs from the various churches that hosted the Annual Meetings for their help. And of course a very warm, loving thanks to my husband Ken for putting up with all the boxes, paperwork and assisting me at the Annual Meetings. I thank God for each of you.

Grace and Peace,
Shirley Jacocks

Conference Secretary of Program Resources

Reminder! Get your information in to your District Education & Interpretation Coordinator by August 1 to qualify for your unit's Mission Today certificate. Make your District 100%.

2003
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	Nov. 1	Sager-Brown, Baldwin
Alexandria	Oct. 4	Horseshoe, Alexandria
Baton Rouge	Nov. 1	Broadmoor, Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	Oct. 25	St. Luke-Simpson, Lake Charles
Monroe	Nov. 8	First UMC, Bastrop
New Orleans	Oct. 25	Munholland, Metairie
North Shore	Nov. 1	Aldersgate, Slidell
Ruston	Oct. 25	Farmerville UMC, Farmerville
Shreveport	Oct. 19	Christ's UMC, Shreveport

UMW 2004 SLATE OF NOMINATION ANNOUNCED
Nominated for a two year term: 2004-2005

President: Lueburda J. Myers (S)
P.O. Box 35797
Shreveport, LA 71133

Secretary: Frances Patton (M)
407 Gregory St.
Vidalia, LA 71373

Education & Interpretation Coordinator:
Carolyn Colvin (S)
4727 Gilbert Dr.
Shreveport, LA 71106

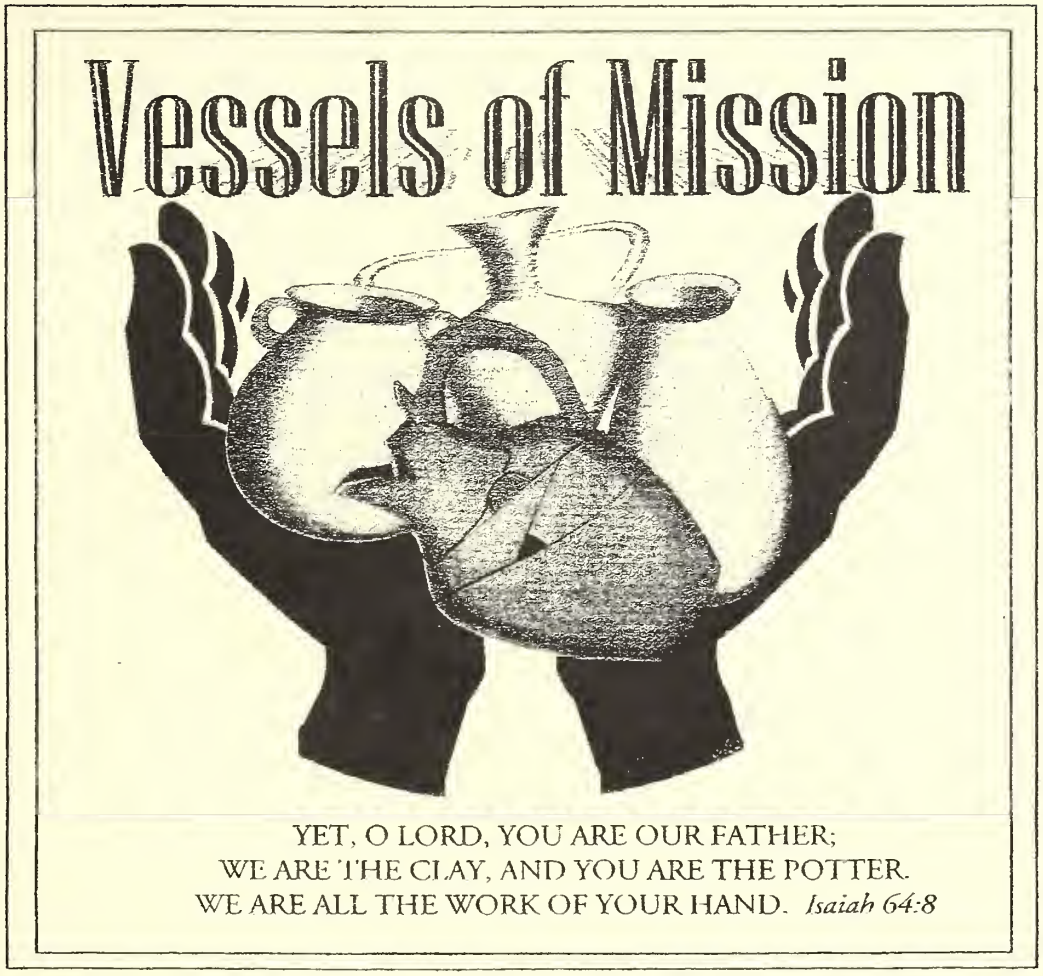
Membership Nurture & Outreach:
Jo Traweek (M)
110 Pinewood Dr.
West Monroe, LA 71291

Secretary of Program Resources:
Lana Lathan (BR)
131 Ogden Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Communications Coordinator:
Brenda J. Canty (BR)
3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Members of the Committee on Nominations:
Class of 2007: Melba Stine (LC)
444 Jefferson Dr.
Lake Charles, LA 70605

ANNOUNCING:



South Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women
Quadrennial Meeting - March 12-14, 2004
San Antonio, TX

SEE YOUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT FOR MORE DETAILS

LA Conference UMW Recommended Goals for 2004

(In accordance with Conference Guidelines, Article IV, Section 1, b2—Set Conference Goals to be published in Conference Newsletter)

I. In the year 2004, as **A Community of Women**, our goal will be to increase membership by:

A. Seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist.

B. Creating more District Units.

C. Increasing the membership in existing units by creating teen, college/university age and newly retired women's circles.

II. In the year 2004, our goal will be to encourage children, youth and women to **Know God** by:

A. Promoting conference, district, and local unit mission studies as outlined by the Women's Division.

B. Incorporating the use of the Prayer Calendar in daily devotion.

III. In the year 2004, our goal will be to continue to **Develop A Creative, Supportive Fellowship** by:

A. Observing UMW Sunday (membership emphasis Sunday) on January 25, 2004, or an alternate date, in every unit throughout the conference.

B.. Promoting and celebrating the 135th Anniversary of United Methodist Women on the local, district and conference levels.

C. Continuing to work with the Women's Division Projects of Louisiana by collecting items as outlined in the current Material Resources for Mission Catalog, and presenting them at the UMW Annual Meeting.

IV. In the year 2004, our goal will be to **Expand Concepts in Mission** by:

A. Encouraging District and Local Units to use the 2004 Program Book, Response Magazine, and the Prayer Calendar in program planning.

B. Promoting and assisting each Local and District Unit in becoming a Mission Today Unit.

C. Implementing the Charter Club for Racial Justice.

D. Increasing the number of partcipants in the Reading Program by 5%.

V. In the year 2004, our goal will be to continue to **Participate in the Global Ministries of the Church** by:

A. Paying our pledge to mission in full.

B. Supporting and promoting our Mission Candle and Mission Ribbons.

(In accordance with Standing Rules, page 9—Nominees shall be published in the Conference Newsletter prior to Annual Meeting)

Nominees for Delegates to the 2004 South Central Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Meeting:

Lueburda Myers, President
Kathleen Conrad, Vice President
Frances Patton, Secretary
Jeanette McCalman, Treasurer
Jeanne Green,
Social Action Coordinator
Brenda Canty,
Communications Coordinator

Nominees for Women's Division Directors (2005—2008):

Brenda Canty
Kathleen Conrad
Sandy Darby

District
Elected
Leadership
Training

"Leadership with a Jazzy New Ring"

When: October 18, 2003
Where: LA Conference Center
Time: Registration 9:00—9:30 a.m.
Opening Worship 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Officers' Training 10:00—12 noon
Lunch and Dismissal 12:00—2:00 p.m.

For **All** Retuning and Newly Elected District and Conference Officers

Lana Lathan, Chairperson
Jan Rose, Co-Chairperson

Complete the form below if you are a returning or newly elected district officer even if you will not be able to attend so that materials can be reserved for you. Return to:
DELT
Attn: L. Lathan & J. Rose
131 Ogden Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806-5013

DELT REGISTRATION FORM

Name_____

Address_____

_____
City Zip Code

Phone_(_____)_____

Office_____
( ) New ( ) Returning

District_____

( ) I will attend

( ) I will be unable to attend

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING
September 19—20, 2003
First United Methodist Church
Head of Texas Street
Shreveport, LA

Send Registration to: Jeanette McCalman
715 West Palmetto Avenue
Plain Dealing, La 71064
(318) 326-5921
gjmccalman@juno.com

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW
Pre-Registration Fee $ 8.00
Onsite Registration Fee $10.00
Banquet Fee $20.00

Name_____

Address_____

_____
City Zip Code

Phone__(_____)_____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:
☐ Conference Office—Specify_____
☐ Conference Executive Committee_____
☐ District Office—Specify_____
☐ Former conference President or Guild Secretary
☐ Retired Missionary or Deaconess
☐ Local Unit Member ☐ Voting Delegate
☐ Guest

MEALS
☐ Friday Lunch ☐ Saturday Breakfast ☐ Saturday Lunch
☐ Banquet (non-refundable) Include with registration

Church_____
City_____ District_____
Number in Unit_____
Where will you be staying during meeting?_____
Will child care service be needed?_____
Age of child/children (none older than 10 years)_____

NOTE: Registration fee includes: Cost of insurance from time of departure until return home, registration packet, and a portion of meeting expenses.

Sweet Mission Treat

There are just some old-fashioned sweets that are always a special treat no matter what age you are, making smores around a campfire is one of those childhood favorites. In June, Heather Haussler and Carron Fillingim, UMW University Women, had the pleasure of bringing smores out to Camp Harmony in Robert, LA for the kids from New Horizons of Hammond. New Horizons is a temporary foster center for children. Patricia Eberhardt, Joan Carver and Shirley Jacocks from First Hammond's UMW Unit accompanied Heather and Carron. The evening was absolutely lovely. The kids came up to the bonfire in groups of six to toast their marshmallows, and then went over to a picnic table for help with their graham crackers and chocolate. To top off the event, a classic campfire sing-a-long took place. What a sweet mission trip!

Carron Fillingim,
Secretary/Treasurer SLU UMW

CONFERENCE UPCOMING EVENTS

2003

August		District Mini-Schools of Mission
September	19-20	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting FUMC, Shreveport, LA
October	18	District Elected Leaders Training/DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

2004

January	25	UMW Sunday
	30-31	Midyear Executive Meeting
March	12-14	South Central Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Meeting
	20	Finance, Membership & Nominations Committee Meetings
April	27-May 7	United Methodist Church General Conference, Pittsburgh, PA
June		UMW Regional School of Mission
July	21-24	UMW Conference School of Christian Mission

A Publication of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. January Newsletter—due date December 3, 2003, May Newsletter—due date April 1, 2004 and August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2004.

Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:
Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805
Fax—225-356-7687 or

E-mail
missbjc@worldnet.att.net

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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Bogalusa, LA 70427

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United Methodist Women 135 years in Mission 1869 · 2004

Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXVII No. 1 January 2004

Celebration Time!

This year the United Methodist Women will be celebrating 135 years in mission. This gives us an opportunity to study our history and see how it has made us what we are today.

Margaret Mead concluded after a lifetime of observing diverse cultures around the world: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

We continue the journey that was begun almost 135 years ago. Those small groups of committed women, motivated by the gospel, gave their time, skills and resources to the movement that is today United Methodist Women. And from the time of those women, to the million members of today, we still hear God calling us to participate in God's mission. We have seen that there are no limits to what committed, dedicated Christian women can do with God's help. Let us continue, then, undeterred—confident of the road we are on, and the One who accompanies us on the journey. *(This is an excerpt of the Women's Division president's speech from the board of directors meeting).*

Our Purpose

- To celebrate United Methodist Women and predecessor women's missionary organizations.
- To commemorate the contributions of women to the life of the church and society.
- To renew our commitment to continuing ministries with women, children, and youth.

Our Goals

- 135th birthday party in every local and district unit!
- 135th anniversary party in each district and annual meeting!
- 30% increase in *Response* magazine subscriptions!
- Contribution of $1.35 per member to the anniversary offering!

All money for the special anniversary celebration should be sent by the local treasurer using special remittance forms.

Funds raised from the special anniversary offering benefit current national and international ministries with women, children, and youth and enable the development of emerging programs.

Meet the UMW Conference Leadership TEAM for 2004

From the President...

The Year 2004 represents a milestone in the spiritual journey of women organized for mission. This year United Methodist Women throughout the land will celebrate 135 years in mission. Can you begin to form a mental image of the tremendous impact that women in mission have had in a span of 135 years? All of this year, United Methodist Women across the nine districts and in each local unit in the Louisiana Conference, will take a look back to study our history to see how it has made us what we are today.

At each level of the organization—conference, district, and local, we will honor the memory and contributions of those courageous and extraordinary women from Louisiana who were trailblazers and innovators in mission as they served women, children, youth, and others in need.

Join the UWM Conference Team in the Celebration!

Luebruba Jamison Myers

Kathleen Conrad
Vice President
Acadiana District

Frances Patton
Secretary
Monroe District

Jeanette McCalman
Treasurer
Shreveport District

Lana Lathan
Secretary of Program Resource
Baton Rouge District

Brenda Canty
Communications Coordinator
Baton Rouge District

Staphenae Carey
Nomination Committee Chairperson
New Orleans District

Mission Coordinators

Betty Carlin
Spiritual Growth
Lake Charles District

Jeanne Green
Social Action
New Orleans District

Jo Traweek
Membership Nurture & Outreach
Monroe District

Carolyn Colvin
Education & Interpretation
Shreveport District

Membership Nurture & Outreach Report

2003 UMW Conference Membership Stats:

Districts	Members	Units
Acadiana	838	29
Alexandria	586	18
Baton Rouge	1060	28
Lake Charles	1088	33
Monroe	782	24
New Orleans	1226	37
North Shore	937	36
Ruston	508	21
Shreveport	1194	38
Total	8219	258

2003 Reading Program Report

Districts	#Readers	#Books
Acadiana	22	135
Alexandria	114	443
Baton Rouge	64	280
Lake Charles	98	621
Monroe	28	223
New Orleans	79	332
North Shore	140	1217
Ruston	29	217
Shreveport	67	414
Total	641	3882

Note: North Shore also has a children's reading program with four churches and one district member participating, 18 children with ninety books read.

United Methodist Women celebrate UMW Sunday

"Peace"

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will celebrate UMW Sunday, traditionally on Sunday, January 25, 2004. The 2004 theme, "Peace" is an invitation to membership in a organization of women who are advocates for women, children and youth.

The organization of UMW has been in existence for over 135 years. Today, there are one million plus members in over 25,000 local units in the United States.

Membership in UMW offers participation in and with a unique community of women focused on world-wide mission and encourages the development and use of leadership skills.

The conference membership goals for 2004 are to increase the membership by seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist, create more District units, and increase the membership in existing units by creating teen college/university age and newly retired women circles.

The UMW Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate membership and invite others to join. The Conference UMW celebration is made special with the purchase and wearing of UMW Ribbons. Ribbons can be purchased by contacting the District UMW Treasurer. The UMW Ribbon, embossed with logo and theme, are collectors items, and an invitation to membership. Interested women are welcome to join their local church unit, charge group, or to become a district member.

"Blessed Are the Peacemakers..." Matthew 5:9

A Note From Your Secretary

Secretaries, local and district, all of you should know that you are a written link of the past and present. You preserve the past by keeping track of all records and official papers. Copies of program such as retreats, UMW Sunday, Mini School of Christian Mission and Annual Meeting should all be preserved because they are the history of your unit or district. Since many units do not have a historian, the secretary, working with the president may send materials to the district historian or secretary. The district counterparts, in turn, will send the materials, along with the district newsletter to the Conference Historian, Janet Ward, 496 Tiger Road, Lecompte, LA 71346,

You preserve the present by keeping minutes of all meetings; by keeping correct and current listings of members, their addresses and phone numbers; and by sending a list of elected leaders of your local UMW unit to the district secretary as soon as elected, deadline November 15th. (District Secretaries send to conference Secretary by December 1st).

Never underestimate the importance of your work. What if there had been no chroniclers in Jesus' time on earth?

Frances Patton, Secretary

Words From Your Treasurer

The year 2004 promises to be a year of changes and challenges. We have all been aware of the crunch we have felt in preparing for the Conference School of Christian Mission, with last minute efforts to accommodate as many people as possible, only to have some who have not been able to come for lack of room. This has not changed, but, if the registrations are received far enough in advance, the Conference Center has promised to furnish roll-away beds, at a small charge, to help us house more people per room.

Another change we will experience is the cost of the rooms and meals have gone up. However, instead of having to send in your money for your room with your registration, this will be payable directly to the Conference Center upon arriving. The one thing that has not changed is the registration fee. It will still be mailed in to the Treasurer and the room assignments will be made by the Registrar.

Jeanette McCalman, Treasurer

Reading is Fundamental

Catherine Hogue sits with her grandchildren, Holly, age 9, Austin, age 6, and Nathan, age 4 as her granddaughter reads from the United Methodist Women's Children's Reading Program. This innovative program was started on the way home from a meeting at the Conference Center in Woodworth as the District Officers discussed what we could do to involve more children and youth in the UMW mission program. Carol Landry, North Shore Resource Coordinator, suggested the idea of the Reading Program. Before we arrived at our homes, the groundwork for the program had been formed. Children ages 3 to 12 may read or be read to, five books from the Women's Division Children's Reading list.

United Methodist Women

a Century in Mission

"FROM THESE ROOTS"
HISTORICAL CHART OF
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

1784-1939
Methodist Episcopal Church
1869 Woman's Foreign Missionary Society
1880 Woman's Home Missionary Society
1921 Wesleyan Service Guild
1904 Ladies' Aid Societies

1829-1939
Methodist Protestant Church
1879 Woman's Foreign Missionary Society
1893 Woman's Home Missionary Society
1928 To become Woman's Convention of the Board of Missions
Ladies' Aid Societies

1844-1939
Methodist Episcopal Church, South
1878 Woman's Foreign Missionary Society
1890 Woman's Home Missionary Society
1910 To become Woman's Missionary Council of the Board of Missions
Parsonage and Ladies' Aid Societies
Young Women's and Business Women's Circles

1939-1968
The Methodist Church
1939-40 Woman's Society of Christian Service (Wesleyan Service Guild, auxiliary to WSCS)
Administered by Woman's Division of the Board of Missions

1968
The United Methodist Church
1968 Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild
Administered by Women's Division of the Board of Missions

1800-1946
United Brethren in Christ
1875 Women's Missionary Association
1909 Administrative responsibilities merged with general Home and Foreign Missionary Societies
Harford Circle (for Business Women)
Otterbein Circle (for Young Women)

1803-1922
Evangelical Association
United Evangelical Church
1922-1946
Evangelical Church
1884 Woman's Missionary Society
Christian Service Guild (for Business Women)
Young People's Missionary Circle (prior to formation of EYF in 1942)

1946-1968
Evangelical United Brethren Church
1946 Women's Society of World Service and Christian Service Guild combined to become in
1958 Women's Society of World Service
Administered by Women's Division of the Board of Missions

1973 United Methodist Women
Administered by Women's Division
Board of Global Ministries

- - - - - relationship to various missionary societies

Faces of the LA Conference Women In Mission
Yesterday— Today— Tomorrow

Mark Your Calendar

January	17	Task Force for Annual Meeting
	25	UMW Sunday
	30-31	Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting—LA Conference Center
March	12-14	South Central Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Meeting San Antonio, TX
	20	Finance, Membership & Program Committee Meetings
April	27-May 7	United Methodist Church General Conference, Pittsburgh, PA
June	21-24	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission, Baldwin, KS
July	21-24	LA Conference School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center
August		District Mimi-Schools of Mission
September	24-25	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting
October	9	District Elected Leaders Training/ DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Meeting

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR TRADE

Trade a hum-drum life for one of love, fellowship, learning experience, and mission work. Join United Methodist Women today! We need you, you need us. There would be no UMW without U.

NOTICES

The Women's Division will continue to recommend the study of three topics each year for Schools of Christian Mission. It is the hope that by offering each geographic and general issue study for two years, more persons will have an opportunity to explore each theme.

WANTED

Each Conference is asked to get an artist to create a logo that can be used in the Schools of Mission for the year 2004. The chosen logo will be used for the cover of the West Gulf Regional School Program Book. THEME: PRAYER, POLICY, POLITICS. If interested, please contact Kathleen Conrad for the program book art form at 107 Kansas T., Lafayette, LA 70501. Deadline date, February 1, 2004. Kathleen is also seeking suggestions for various morning praise and prayer styles for the Conference and Regional Schools of Mission.

A Publication of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. Due dates are: May Newsletter—due date April 1, 2004, August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2004, January Newsletter– due date December 1, 2004.
Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by: Mail—3509 North 38th St. Baton Rouge, LA 70805. Fax—225-356-2264 or

E-mail
missbjc@bellsouth.net

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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Quadrennial Meeting Information

Historical Chart of UMW

Faces of LA Women in Mission

Lois Patten
1625 Thomas Blvd.
Bogalusa, LA 70427

United Methodist Women 135 years in Mission 1869 • 2004

Louisiana Conference UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXVIII No. 2 May 2004

Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission
LA Conference Center, Woolworth, LA
July 21—24, 2004

THEME: PRAYER, POLICY AND POLITICS

Paul calls us to "pray without ceasing". We pray for many things—peace, guidance, courage, strength, understanding and wisdom. We pray selfishly for what we want and unselfishly to accept what God wants for us.

As we pray for others, we remember God's children in Cuba. Many times we have acted unjustly toward our island neighbors. We have erected barriers which have prevented us from learning more about them. We have enacted an embargo that has brought much suffering to all people of Cuba. God calls us to love one another—to seek points of reconciliation.

As times changed with the break-up of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War in the 90's, we entered the new millennium with a sense of hope. In the 21st Century, let us be instruments of God's will. May we find ways to build bridges to our Cuban brothers and sisters as we pray for peace with our neighbors.

Proverbs 22:6 exhorts us to "Teach a child how he or she should live; and he or she will remember it all his or her life". Education has always been of value to the individual, to society, and to civilization. Through education we pass on information and skills that enable people to earn a living. We teach lessons that enable people to live together. We pass on an understanding and appreciation of the world that helps people enjoy and take care of God's creation. Each child is a treasure of much worth and should be given opportunities for education and training. As Christians, we have a responsibility to ensure that all children are given equal access to the tools for learning.

The studies will call us to be open to God's leading, to nurture a relationship with Cuban Christians, and to provide our children an opportunity for a quality future.

Sandy and I extend the invitation to all United Methodist Women, Laity, Clergy, Teen and College/ University Women to join us at the 2004 School of Christian Mission. Come ready to expand your knowledge and be filled spiritually as we experience and explore new avenues of learning in the areas of prayer, policy and politics.

Kathleen Conrad
Dean

Sandy DeCelle
Assistant Dean

Celebrating 135 Years in Mission: Voices from the Past

As we look forward to our Conference School of Christian Mission in July, we will not only experience a period of study and spiritual growth this year, but we will also gather to give praise and thanksgiving for 135 years of ministries with women, children and youth. Thank God for the gift of memory which affords us an opportunity to recall the attributes and contributions of our United Methodist Women organization and all predecessor organizations in mission through the years.

Throughout the year we will listen to the voices from the past as they tell the story of their years. We will hear voices telling stories of mission works from each of the nine districts. Some voices and or experiences from the past on the conference level will include Inez Christenery, Amy Ward, Mary Compton, Gloria Bennett, Janelle McCammon, Norma Winegeart, Janet Hoffpauir, Pat Cobb, Elouise Sanders, and others. Daughters, granddaughters, and great-granddaughters will be the voice for those whose earthly tasks have ended such as Neil Read, Ruth Carter, Estelle Dameron, Elizabeth Thomas, Virginia Laskey, Florence Kilpatrick, Margaret Bowen, Maude Harris, Beulah Williams, Elizabeth McGowan, and the list goes on and on.

We are continuing the journey that was begun almost a century and a half ago by those small groups of committed women, who were motivated by the gospel, gave their time, skills and resources to the movement that is today United Methodist Women. From the time of those women, we have seen and we are living witnesses that there are no limits to what committed, dedicated Christian women can do with God's help.

Let us continue, then, undeterred and confident of the road we are on, and the One who accompanies us on the journey. We look forward to sharing this time with all of you in July. Please come! "We Lead—We Serve."

Lueburda Jamison Myers

Conference President

THE LEARNING CENTER

District Sponsored Learning Center Displays will highlight the 2004 Studies. The Learning Center will be located along the hallway of the main lodge.

Display Set Up & Take Down

A table for each district will be provided. Please bring extension cords, table covering and backdrops as needed. Displays are to be ready for viewing by 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 21, 2004 and taken down Friday night, July 23, 2004.

International Mission Opportunity

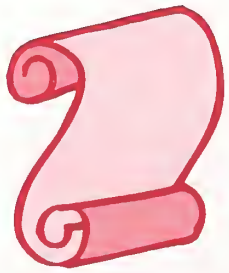
Sewing kits are needed in Daka-Fann Sengel. Kits consist of 2 yards of fabric, thread, thimbles, buttons, zippers and needles. Wrap sewing notions in the fabric. Place the bundle in a sealed one gallon Ziploc bag. A collection box will be in the registration area at the School of Mission in July.

Missionaries Karen and Sebastine Ujereh will be given these kits for shipment and delivery.

Certification and Credits Opportunity

Up to 2.00 CEU credits for clergy as outlined by the Board of Ordained Ministry are available for full participation in the 2004 School of Christian Mission.

Lay Speakers who need to re-certify can also receive a certificate of full participation in studies that can be presented to their District Lay Leader for approved re-certification.



Textbooks, Study Guides and AV

From the Library of your Secretary of Program Resources :

It is a pleasure to greet you as your new SPR for the LA Conference UMW. I look forward to a great and productive time together as we read, learn and grow together. Herein you will find the textbooks and resource listings that will help prepare you for our exciting 2004 School of Christian Mission.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

Adult Study: *Concerning Prayer*
Stock #3589 Price $5.00
Youth Study: *Concerning Prayer*
Stock #3592 Price $5.00

CUBA:

Adult Study: *Cuba with Leader's Guide*
Stock #3593 Price $7.50
Map 'n Facts—Cuba
Stock #3600 Price $8.95
Response Magazine May 2004
Stock #3495 Price $1.75
New World Outlook May/June 2004
Stock #3505 Price $5.00
Video—Cuba: Three Face Perspective
Stock #3599 Price $19.95
Children's Study: *Children's Storybook: A Taste of Cuba*
Stock #3595 Price $4.00
Stock #3596 Price $6.00—Teacher's Guide

PUBLIC EDUCATION:

Adult Study : *Public Education: Issues and Challenges*
Stock #3597 Price $7.50
Response Magazine April 2004
Stock #3494 Price $1.75
New World Outlook Jan/Feb 2004
Stock 3492 Price $1.75
Youth Study: *Public Education: I Dream of A School*
Stock #3598 Price $6.00

All of these listed materials and many additional materials will be showcased at the School of Mission in July. Be sure to visit us in the Resource Area at the Conference Center and check out all the materials we will have on display. If there are any special orders that a district or unit would like to make, please get those in ASAP.

READING PROGRAM REMINDER: Only two copies of each title will be sent for an event. One copy will be designated "Sample Copy" and is not to be taken until the end of the event. However, prepaid orders will be taken and the books will be shipped free from the Service Center. You may use Visa/Mastercard, or check when ordering this way. There are special order forms for this purpose and applies only to current reading books. Remember reading program reports are due at the end of July.

Lana Lathen

Schedule for the 2004 School of Christian Mission

Wednesday, July 21

9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.	Registration
9:30 a.m.— 11:45 a.m.	Visit Resource Center
11:00 a.m.—11:45 a.m.	First Timers Meeting
12 Noon Lunch	
1:30 p.m.—2:00 p.m.	Community Singing
2:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.	Assembly I
3:15 p.m.—4:15 p.m.	Class: Prayer
4:30 p.m.—5:30 p.m.	Class: Cuba or Education
6:00 p.m. Dinner	
7:15 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	What's New?

Thursday, July 22

8:00 a.m.—8:15 a.m.	Community Singing
8:15 a.m.—8:45 a.m.	Assembly II
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.	Class: Cuba or Education
11:15 a.m.—12 Noon	Visit Resource Center
12 Noon Lunch	
1:30 p.m. —3:00 p.m.	Class: Prayer
3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.	Study Hall
4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	Class: Cuba or Education
6:00 p.m. Dinner	
7:15 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	Education Forum

Friday, July 23

8:00 a.m.—8:15 a.m.	Community Singing
8:15 a.m.—8:45 a.m.	Assembly III
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.	Class: Prayer
11:15 a.m.—12 Noon	Workshops for those planning to lead studies
12 Noon Lunch	
1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.	Class: Prayer
3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.	Study Hall
4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.	Class: Cuba or Education
6:00 p.m. Dinner	
6:50 p.m.	Peace Pole Dedication
7:15 p.m.	135th Birthday Celebration

Saturday, July 24

8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.	Class: Cuba or Education
915 a.m.—11:15 p.m.	Class: Prayer
11:15 p.m.—11:45 p.m.	Assembly IV—Closing Celebration
BOX LUNCH	

(Spiritual Exercise: 6:45 a.m. & Breakfast 7:00 a.m. Thurs-Sat.)

(Red-Eye Theater following evening schedule)

Introducing the 2004 School of Christian Mission Teachers

Prayer Study

Annette Fortuna is our UMW All Around Woman. What a treat! Annette is married to Dave Fortuna, pastor of Noel Memorial UMC in Shreveport. Her conference activities for the current year—UMW Sunday speaker for Homer UMC, First UMC Minden and Noel UMC; Spiritual Growth Retreat Leader for the women of Broadmoor Shreveport in March; song leader for Cursillo in April; and song leader for UMW Annual Meeting in Lafayette in September. Annette's church activities include: Leading two women's Bible studies, teaching and adult Sunday School class, singing in the chancel choir, helping create worship centers for special worship services, and of course, an active member of the local UMW unit. Annette has two lovely grown daughters, Misty and her husband Todd Davis, who live in Shreveport, and Wendy and her husband, Byron Mitchell, who live in Pineville. She now has three beautiful grandchildren, Ella and the twins,

Geographical Study - Cuba

Rev. Pam Crews is an Ordained Deacon and holds a Masters in Christian Education from United Theological Seminary. Currently, Pan is employed at First UMC, Shreveport as Pastor of Spiritual Formation. She is responsible for equipping and mobilizing volunteers and resourcing adult discipleship ministries. Her past experiences include being youth director for seven years and three years as District Missioner.

Dolores L. Garcia was born and raised in Weslaco, Texas, seven miles from the border of Mexico. She has worked for 39 years in the education system and currently in her fifth year of retirement and loving it. Delores has served as president and vice president on district and conference levels, treasurer of the Core Planning Group in the South Central Jurisdiction, and a director of the Women's Division and the General Board of Global Ministries. She is currently serving as director of Texas Methodist Foundation. Delores has three children, Ernesto, Beatriz and Joel and five lovely grandchildren.

Rev. Erica Rene'e Jenkins is a native of Lake Charles. She was nurtured in Warren United Methodist Church. She is a graduate of St. Louis High School and McNeese State University. She completed Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA receiving the Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Counseling and Master of Arts in Christian Education with honors. Rev. Jenkins has served the Jone-Mallalieu-Trinity charge as a prison Chaplain and Emory University Hospital Chaplain and Associate Director for Villa International Atlanta, a ministry affiliated with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Her work and travel to 10 countries reflects her heart for Mission and Evangelism. She is an Elder in full Connection and presently serving as pastor of two wonderful congregations, St. Peter in Jeanerette and Mallalieu in St. Martinville.

Sue C. Johnson has been a staff member of Women's Division for 15 years. She is one of the three Executive Secretaries for Mission Team Training. During her time with Women's Division she has been a study leader in many conference schools and regional schools. Sue has done staff work in West Africa and she was a volunteer for Women's Division as a United Nations Information Interpreter. Sue's passions include the theatre, reading and visual arts.

Social Issue Study - Public Education

Dr. Barbara Ferguson is the UMW President at St. Luke in New Orleans. She serves as a Liturgist, the Adult Ministry Coordinator, and the Lay Delegate to the Annual Conference. She is also active in the KAIROS Women's Prison Ministry, and serves on the Board of Directors for several community organizations, including the House of Ruth for Homeless Families and Education First. Dr. Ferguson has a Doctoral Degree in Education from the UNO and a law degree from Loyola University. She has worked as a Math teacher, elementary and senior high principal, and Superintendent of the St. John Public School System. Currently, Dr. Ferguson works at the University of New Orleans, practices law, and operates her own small business.

Jeanne B. Green is a native of New Orleans. She is a graduate of SU and LSU in Baton Rouge. Jeanne has worked as a teacher and librarian in the New Orleans public schools, and she has worked as instructor/teacher coordinator at Southern University in New Orleans. Jeanne has been the president of the Wesleyan Service Guild, Church School Superintendent and member of the Administrative Council of her local church. She has also served as UMW New Orleans District President and she is currently serving as Mission Coordinator for Social Action on the UMW Conference Team. Jeanne is a widow, the mother of four and the grandmother of eight.

Elouise Sanders is a retired teacher. She graduated from Northern State University and taught Social Studies at Doyline High School for thirty-three years. Elouise has served as President and Vice-President of her local UMW unit, President of the Ruston District UMW, and President of the LA Conference UMW. She has been UMW Sunday speaker and taught mission studies throughout the conference. Elouise is a lifetime member of Mt. Mariah UMC, where she serves as Church Treasurer, teaches the Adult Sunday School Class, and a member of the Arcadia UMW.

Jo Traweek has been in the field of education for thirty-eight years. She was very active in professional organizations, serving as President of Ouachita Teachers Association and LA State President of Alpha Delta Kappa. Jo has taught adults The Bethel Bible Study, facilitated three Disciple Bible Studies, and numerous UMW studies in the Monroe District. Jo is currently the Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach for the LA UMW Conference Team. She is a certified lay-speaker and has spoken in many churches on UMW Sunday.

Teen Women (Youth) Study Leader

Staphenae Carey is a native "Westbanker" of New Orleans (via Gretna/Harvey) who received her undergraduate degree in English Education from Dillard University and Masters of Art in English from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Staphenae is an Assistant Principal at Harry S. Truman Middle School, where she supervises all aspects of the school's Special Education Program. She is currently the Committee on Nominations Chairperson for the LA Conference UMW. Staphenae has one grown son, Jarrett.

Linda Ann Carter Joseph was born in Port Allen, LA. She graduated from Southern University with a degree in Vocational Home Economics and a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling. Linda has been commissioned as a Probationary Deacon in Full Connection in the UMC. She is a member of Neely UMC in Baton Rouge where she serves as coordinator of the Christian Education/ Outreach Ministry . She has served in the Prison Ministry Program with the Honorable Judge Bob Downing and is certified through Jetson Correctional Facility to serve with the Epiphany Ministry of LA. Linda is married to Ulysses Joseph and they have two sons, Bryant and Andre.

Music Leader and Pianist

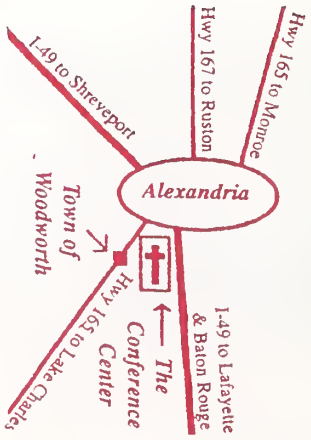
Dorothy A. "Jackie" Pennington is a native Mississipian who has lived in Louisiana since 1975. She is a graduate of Alcorn State University in Lorman, Mississippi where she received a degree in Music Education. Jackie teaches vocal music and piano in the St. Tammany Parish School System. She is married to Rev. Walter B. Pennington, Pastor of Grace UMC in the New Orleans District. They are the proud parents of Wilhelm, Walter III, Jamila and Wynton, and proud grandparents of four.

Board of Education

Dean/Vice President.....Kathleen Conrad
Assistant Dean.....Sandy DeCelle
President.....Lueberda Myers
Secretary.....Frances Patton
Registration/Business Manager.....Jeanette McCalman
Housing.....Evelyn Evans
Spiritual Growth.....Betty Carlin
Social Action/Education Forum Coordinator.....Jean Green
Education & Interpretation/ Learning Centers.....Carolyn Colvin
Membership Nurture.....Jo Traweek
Program Resources/Literature Display & Sales.....Lana Lathan
Publicity.....Brenda Canty
135th UMW BD Celebration.....Evelyn Martin
Music Leader/Pianist.....Dorothy Pennington
Local Arrangements.....Elouise Cox, Penny Johnson, Jeanette Key
First Aid Volunteer.....Kathleen Thomas
Audio Visual.....Fannie Reddix

ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE SCHOOL OF MISSION

DIRECTIONS: **From Baton Rouge**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49, From I-49, take Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles) **From New Orleans**, take I-10 West toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take the Woodworth exit, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles). **From Shreveport**, take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)



THE ESTELLE DAMERON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women annually provides interested women an opportunity to attend its School of Christian Mission through the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Fund. The scholarship continues to grow in Mrs. Dameron's honor through gifts, special offerings, and yearly contributions from local UMW units. This tradition is even more important as we prepare for mission in the year 2004 and beyond.

The Membership Nurture and Outreach Committee is encouraging young, seasoned, energetic, single, married, employed, homemakers, students or newly retired women to apply for a scholarship. Applicants can come from a large or small unit, and we will also consider persons other than members of United Methodist Women. Getting women interested in mission at an early age and at new life stages is one way to insure the vitality and growth of an educated, mission minded membership. Please urge women in these age/interest categories to apply. All applicants should indicate a willingness to attend and participate fully in all activities of the school. One applicant per unit and **first timers ONLY** should send a completed application form with a written statement of 50 words or less, entitled: **I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because. . .**

Applications must be postmarked by May 31, 2004, and mailed to: Jo Traweek
110 Pinewood Dr.
West Monroe, LA 71291

Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant_____ Phone ( )_____

Applicant's Address_____ State____ Zip_____

Unit (church) Name_____ District_____

Unit President or Contact Person_____

President or Church Address_____ State_____ Zip_____

(1) Has applicant attended a School of Christian Mission before?
___ Yes
___ No

(2) Applicant's age grouping
___ High School
___ Under 35
___ 36-50
___ 51 and older

(3) Employment:
___ Full time
___ Part time
___ Retired
___ Student
___ Homemaker

(4) Applicant's choice of study:
___ Education
___ Cuba

INCLUDE A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF FIFTY (50) WORDS OF LESS TELLING WHY YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION. (A separate sheet may be used.)

Louisiana Brings Home The Gold

Kathleen Conrad
2004-2008 Women's Division
Director

Pat Cobb
2004-2008 President
South Central Jurisdiction

On March 12-14, 2004 at the United Methodist Women South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, the Louisiana delegation of 72 United Methodist Women were ecstatic over having two of our own bring home a golden opportunity to serve on the national level.

One of the main objectives of the Quadrennial Meeting is to elect eight of the fifty directors of the Women's Division. Kathleen Conrad was elected to serve as a Women's Division Director of the General Board of Global Ministries for 2004-2008. Kathleen will serve in one the three divisions of the Women's Division—Finance, Membership or Organization & Development. Kathleen is from the Acadiana District and currently serving as our Conference UMW Vice-President, 2004 Dean of our Conference School of Mission and Chairperson of the West Gulf Regional School of Mission Nominating Committee. Kathleen has served in many other roles on all levels of the UMW and the Methodist Church. She is married to the Rev. Clifton Conrad and they have two children.

Another objective that is carried out at the Quadrennial Meeting is to elect officers for the Jurisdiction' s Core Planning Group and the Committee on Nominations. Pat Cob was elected President of the South Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women Core Planning Group. Pat is from the New Orleans District, and is a former LA Conference UMW President. Pat's goal is to help revitalize and invigorate units of UMW and help instill in them a passion for mission and service. She is married to Earl Cobb for 52 years, and they have four children and seven grandchildren.

It is our prayer that God will lead and guide Kathleen and Pat in their new leadership roles in the United Methodist Women's organization.

Congratulations!!

In Loving Memory

She was the face of one of the many women in mission on the top right hand side of page 7 of the January edition of this newsletter. Seola Callahan passed on April 21, 2004. She was the immediate Past President of the UMW Lake Charles District. This writer remembers her fondly because she always encouraged and supported me in my work with UMW. She will be missed but not forgotten. Keep her family in your prayers.

Coming Attraction

UMW Annual Meeting

The Acadiana District invites you to attend the LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting. The host church will be Asbury United Methodist in Lafayettee, LA. Details will appear in the August Newsletter.

Celebrate our past! Celebrate who we are today! Celebrate who we can become! Release your creative energies and make this 135 Years in Mission a celebration to remember.

Here are some Ideas:

- Research your local unit's history
- Send a story about UMW to your local newspaper
- Create a church bulletin board to let people know about the 135 years in mission.
- Make a scrapbook with special memories from your unit.
- Celebrate a "Women of the Month" honoring the contribution of all women.
- Have a huge birthday party.
- Share your party with another unite or

Social Action Update

We are so busy in Social Action! There are so many issues on which to make our voices known that we have to decide the direction in which to move. Right now, we are encouraging each unit to work on becoming members of the Charter Club for Racial Justice. Every unit is a new member this year, therefore, four items from the list must be completed in order to qualify. After this year, only two items must be completed. Racial justice is now, and always has been, a priority of Women's Division. Please make it your unit's top priorities.

Social Action District Coordinators are working on priority issues for 2005, the *Staple Report Card Project,* and many districts are in the process of making calls, sending e-mails or writing to their congresspersons asking them not to cut the 38 education programs that are slated for cuts in in the federal budget.

All members are asked to do the same. We are also awaiting information on the Rally for Children on the steps of the State Capitol in Baton Rouge. Please stay alert for details.

The Methodist Church is presently offering a free discount card for prescription drugs. This is a response to the escalating cost of prescription drugs and the fact that 40 million Americans have little or no prescription drug insurance. Call 1-800-379-9040 for your card. If you have web access, try - www.umassociation.org

Jeanne B. Green

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED 225

Interested in being in Mission? Surrender your Campbell's Soup labels at the School of Christian Mission for St. Marks Community Center. Contact you District President for specific brands and label collecting specifics.

HELP 318

Women's Division Project Items to be collected at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Lafayette are School Supplies. Start collecting now and bring those items to the Annual Meeting. Three Women's Division Projects in the Louisiana Conference, Dulac Community Center, Macdonell UM Children's Services and St. Marks Community Center will receive these items. A display and list of supplies to be collected will be available for viewing at the School of Mission in July. Church Women United Kits and UMCOR Items will also have a collection area.

NEEDED 504

Teen and College/University Women at the School of Christian Mission, July 21-24, 2004 in Woodworth LA. Scholarships are available. For details see the Estelle Dameron Scholarship application in this edition or contact your District Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator or District President.

Personal care items for women and children. Items needed are as follows: Bath soap, small bottles of shampoo and conditioners, deodorant, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes (with holders if possible) and washcloths. These items will be packed in Ziploc bags and distributed to women and children in need. There will be a collection box in the registration area at the School of Mission in July.

Treasurer These Words

Our conference did not meet our pledge in 2003. We really tried, however, we missed the mark by $2,586.93. We have reduced the amount pledged for 2004 to $240,000.00, but with just a little effort we should be able to surpass that amount. The first quarter reports are lower than the first quarter reports in the past 3 years which is not promising. Let's all make a determined effort to get those pledges into your Unit Treasurers and see that we go over the top in 2004!

Remember the 135th goal—$1.35 from each member of your UMW Unit. (See the 135 Years in Mission Remittance Form on page 10 of this edition. Please copy or tear out for your use).

Jeanette McCalman
Conference Treasurer

135 Years in Mission Remittance Form
LOCAL UNITS

We want to know how you celebrated!

How did you.....

Celebrate United Methodist Women and predecessor women's missionary organizations?

Empower women to make a difference in churches, neighborhoods and the world?

Renew our commitment to Christ's mission?

When was your local, district or conference celebration? _____

Describe your celebration
(Who? What? Where? How? Use active words. Be specific. Use the back if necessary.)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Include photos.
(Photos will not be returned. They may be used in *Response* Magazine or other UMW literature.)

Amount of offering _____
(Please send the offering to your District Treasurer)

Please copy this form and mail to:
Mary Beth Coudal, Mission Opportunities
Women's Division, GBGM, Room 1503
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, NY 10115

So we can celebrate with you!

Any questions? E-mail MBCoudal@gbgm-umc.org

Send Registration & Housing Form to:

Jeanette McCalman
715 W. Palmetto Ave., Plain Dealing, LA 71064
BY JULY 11th
Make Check Payable to:
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

ADULT REGISTRATION

School of Christian Mission

July 21 - 24, 2004

Louisiana Conference Center

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____

Phone No.: ( )_____

Church:_____District:_____

All Participants mail ONLY $15.00 with Registration

No refunds will be made after July 11th

All Conference Officers and Study Leaders MUST Register

Check all that apply:

( )First Timer

( )Need first floor room (explain below)

_____

( )Rooming with Teen Woman

( )Staying at home

( )Executive Committee

( )District Officer

( )Study Leader at District SCM

( )Retired Missionary or Retired Deaconess

Roommates preferred_____

_____

_____

Studies: Choose one of the following:

( )Cuba

( )Public Education

Everyone participates in the study: Concerning Prayer

Cost for Adults/Youth-to be paid upon arrival

2 to a room - $163.00 per person

3 or 4 to a room - $154.00 per person

Individual meals must be paid at Conference Center desk.

TEEN WOMEN REGISTRATION

Name:_____

Age:_____School level in Sept. 2004_____

Address:_____

City:_____Zip:_____

Phone No.:( )_____

Church:_____District:_____

Name of Adult rooming with you:_____

* Teen Women must be 13 to 17 years old

_____has permission to go on a field trip in connection with her studies.

_____(parent/guardian signature)

All Teen Women participate in the studies:

Public Education and Concerning Prayer

Registration and Housing Information

Registration fee includes insurance coverage from time you leave your home, through your stay and your return home. All rooms have two double beds and bath. Cost is based on number of persons per room and includes meals. Cots will be available upon request and at extra cost. Requests for cots must be received prior to July 7th. Rooms are limited and will be assigned on a first-come basis until full. The Registrar will make ALL room assignments. When rooms are filled, information will be made available of alternate housing. Those not staying at the Conference Center must make their own arrangements. There must be at least one adult in the room with youth.

EMERGENCY FORM

Person to notify in case of Emergency

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____

Phone: ( )_____

Bring with you to School -

1. Insurance Card
2. Doctor's Name and Phone Number
3. Bring all prescription drugs & OTC drugs you might need.

NOTE: We will dispense NO medications on premises.

2004 Mission Education Events

Acadiana District
August 21, 2004
Sager Brown

Alexandria District
October 2, 2004
Palestine

Baton Rouge District
August 7, 2004
Wesley UMC

Lake Charles District
August 22, 2004
Squyres

Monroe District
August 21, 2004
Place: TBA

New Orleans District
August 7, 2004
LaPlace

North Shore District
October 14, 2004
Place: TBA

Ruston District
August 14, 2004
FUMC, Farmerville

Shreveport District
August 21, 2004
Fellowship, Bossier

UPCOMING CONFERENCE EVENTS

June	12-15	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission Baldwin, KS
July	21-24	LA Conference School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center
September	24-25	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Lafayette, LA
October	9	District Elected Leaders Training/DELT LA Conference Center
November	20	School Committee Meeting

A Publication of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year.

August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2004.

Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:

Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

E-mail
missbjc@bellsouth.net

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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United Methodist Women 135 years in Mission 1869 • 2004

Louisiana Conference UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXVIII No. 3 August 2004

The 31st Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting September 24—25, 2004

135 YEARS BY FAITH

UMW 2005

The 31st Annual Meeting of the LA Conference United Methodist Women will convene at 1:00 p.m., Friday, September 24, 2004 in the sanctuary of Asbury United Methodist Church, Lafayette, LA.

This year we celebrate United Methodist Women's 135th Anniversary. The theme—"135 Years: We've Come This Far By Faith," The theme hymn—*My Faith Looks Up To Thee.*

Conference President, Lueburda Myers, will preside over the meeting. Extending words of welcome to UMW members and guests that are in attendance will include: Rev. T. Edward Boyd, Host Pastor of Asbury UMC., Rev. Roger D. Lathan, Acadiana District Superintendent, Juanita Lagard, Acadiana District UMW President, and Kathleen Phillips, Assistant Chairperson and local Unit President. Libby Rickey is in charge of local arrangements.

Pat Cobb, President of the South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group of United Methodist Women will be the guest speaker on Friday evening and Saturday morning.

Devotional Meditations will be delivered by Rev. Ann Sutton, Associate Pastor of Asbury UMC and Rev. Erica R. Jenkins, Pastor of St. Peter UMC and Mallalieu UMC

The ladies throughout the Acadiana District invite you to come and celebrate our 135 years in mission and witness how we have come this far by faith.

Juanita Legard
Chairperson

Kathleen Phillips
Co-Chairperson

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING 2004!

Time to Celebrate 135 Years of Women in Mission

"God's Gift to Us; Our Gift to the World"

This summons to Annual Meeting is a formal invitation to our UMW sisters and all fellow Methodist across the conference to be a part of our 135th year celebration. A UMW birthday party! What a perfect occasion of special festivities to observe a milestone in the spiritual journey of women organized for mission. The ambience and atmosphere of celebration sets the tone for giving praise to God and remembering all of those who helped us to reach almost a century and a half of mission in action.

As United Methodist Women, we continue to lift up prayer for peace and justice. We are truly blessed to be Americans where we have the opportunity to publicly serve Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ without reprisal. And it is by choice that the United Methodist Women's organization is one of our main venues for rendering service to others in the name of the Lord with particular emphasis upon women, children and youth.

When we convene our 31st Annual Meeting, let's celebrate our rich heritage in mission; and let us celebrate the works and accomplishments of our 278 plus local units across the nine districts of the conference. Again this year, we're looking forward to all districts having a record number of women in attendance to meet and fellowship with our own, Pat Cobb, New Orleans native and newly president of the Core Planning Group for the next quadrennial. Please come to extend to Pat a warm Louisiana style hospitality.

Special thanks to Juanita and the annual meeting planning committee for their diligence in preparation for this occasion. Again, you are invited.

In the love of Christ.

Lueburda Jamison Myers, Conference President

Special Request

On Saturday, September 25, 2004, we are asking all Annual Meeting attendees to bring and wear UMW T-Shirts from the **past** in celebration of 135 years in mission.

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING FACTS AND FOCUS

The logo representing the theme "Faith" was designed by Henry Broussard of First UMC, Lafayette, LA.

Each District will make and display banners to commemorate the 135th Anniversary of United Methodist Women.

The registration form is included in this newsletter. Please complete and return to Jeanette McCalman with the proper remittance by September 12, 2004. Each person who registers (attends) including all officers, must pay the $8.00 registration fee. This fee includes the insurance that will cover you from the time you leave home, throughout the meeting and your return home. Please be sure to indicate if you need child care service for this event. Child care will not be available during the banquet.

A Continental Breakfast will be served at the church in the Gym/Multi Purpose Building on Saturday morning from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., and Sandwiches will be available on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Saturday after the Communion Service.

Friday evening the banquet will be held at the Holidome Hotel, 6:30 p.m. You must pre-register for this meal. The cost is $18.00 per person, please indicate this on the registration form and include that amount with your registration fee. There will be NO refunds.

The planned menu is:

Roasted Chicken
Stuffed Potato
Sweet Peas w/ Mushrooms
Tossed Green Salad
Dinner Rolls
Desert
Iced Tea Coffee

A Pre-Executive Committee meeting will be held Thursday, September 23, 2004 at Immanuel UMC, 2700 Louisiana Ave., Lafayette, LA, 6:30 p.m.

The Post-Executive Committee meeting will be held in the Gym immediately following the Communion Service on Saturday. All newly elected and returning officers must attend.

HOUSING INFORMATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Headquarter Hotel -
Holiday Inn—Holidome Hotel
2032 N.E. Evangeline Thruway
Lafayette, LA 70501
Phone: 337-233-6815
1-800-942-4868
Fax: 337-235-1954

Room Rates:

Single/Double Room	$69.00 plus tax
Atrium (inside rooms)	$72.00 plus tax

All room reservations must be made by **September 6, 2004**. Tell the reservation clerk that you are with the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women.

A hospitality room will be available at the hotel for those persons who are not registered at the hotel.

DIRECTIONS:

HOLIDOME TO ASBURY METHODIST CHURCH:

1. When leaving the Holidome turn left onto NE Frontage Rd.
2. Turn right (West) on Castile Ave. toward US-167 N/NE Evangeline Trwy. 0.1 miles
3. Turn left onto US-167 S/NW Evangeline Trwy, 1.7 miles
4. Turn right onto US-167/Johnson St. 3.3 miles
5. Turn left onto Live Oaks Dr. 0.1 miles
6. End at 101 Live Oak Dr, Lafayette, LA

FROM NEW IBERIA, HOUMA, THIBODEAUX AREA TO THE HOLIDOME:

1. Get on US-90W and head toward Lafayette, LA
2. US-90W becomes US-167 N/NE Evangeline Trwy. 1.1 miles
3. Turn right onto Castile St. 0.1 miles
4. Turn left of NE Frontage Rd. and turn right on Bean Dr.
5. End at 2032 NE Evangeline Trwy., Lafayette Holidome

FROM LAKE CHARLES AREA TO THE HOLIDOME

1. Merge onto I-10E
2. Merge onto US-167 S/NW Evangeline Trwy. Via Number 103 A toward US-90/Lafayette. .5 miles
2. Turn left onto Castille St. 0.1 miles
3. Turn left onto NE Frontage Rd.
4. Turn right into Holidome parking lot (Bean Dr.)

FROM NEW ORLEANS, BATON ROUGE AREA TO THE HOLIDOME:

1. Merge onto I-10W toward Lafayette.
2. Merge onto US-167 S via exit number 103A toward US-90/Lafayette. 0.1 miles
3. Turn left onto Castille St. 0.1 miles
4. Turn left on NE Frontage Rd.

FROM SHREVEPORT, LA AREA TO THE HOLIDOME:

1. Merge onto I-49 S toward Alexandria.
2. I-49 merges into US-167 S. when it crosses under I-10. 1.0 miles
3. Turn left onto Castille Ave. 0.1 miles
4. Turn left on NE Frontage Rd.
5. Turn right onto Bean Dr.

FROM MONROE, LA AREA TO THE HOLIDOME:

1. Take US-165 S toward Columbia. 89.5 miles
2. US-167 S becomes Alexandria Pineville Exwy. 0.2 miles
3. Merge onto I-49 S via the exit on the left. 85.5 miles
4. Merge into US-167 S as it goes under I-10 at Lafayette. 0.6 miles
5. Turn left onto Castille Ave. 0.1 miles
6. Turn left onto NE Frontage Rd.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAFAYETTE, LA

Registration:

Registration will begin at Asbury UMC Gym/Multi-Purpose Building at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 24, 2004. Signs will be posed to direct you to registration tables. Each district will have a table and someone from your district (president and treasurer) will be there to assist you.

Retired Missionaries and Deaconesses residing within the Louisiana Conference may attend the Annual Meeting at conference expense (which includes housing and travel) but must send their own registration form and pay their own registration and banquet fees.

PROGRAM
"135 Years: We've Come This Far By Faith
Scripture—1st Thessalonians 1:3
Song Leader, Annette Fortuna
Pianist, Jackie Pennington

FRIDAY AFTERNOON	**1:00 P.M.**
Musical Prelude	
Processional of Conference Officers	Hymn #102
Invocation	Betty Carlin
Convening of the 29th Annual Meeting	Lueburda Myers
Affirming our Purpose	
Opening Hymn	Hymn #452
Welcome and	
Presentation of Program	Juanita Legard and Kathleen Phillips
Recognition of Visitors	Lueburda Myers
Lighting of Mission Candle	Jeanette McCalman
Opening Meditation	Rev. Ann Sutton
Song	*Move Forward by Faith*
Announcements	Libby Rickey

******BREAK******

UMW Sings	
BUSINESS SESSION	
Appointed to Examine Journal	
Mission Team Reports	Conference Officers
Committee on Nominations	Stephenae Carey
Election of Officers	
President's Report	Lueburda Myers
Greeting from Jurisdiction	Pat Cobb
Church Women United	Hallique Dawson
Project Leaders Reports	
Service for Retiring Officers	Elouise Sanders
Closing Hymn	*Move Forward by Faith*

Close of the Afternoon Session—4:30 p.m.
Reconvene 6:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Holidome for the Banquet

FRIDAY EVENING	**6:30 P.M.**
BANQUET PROGRAM	
Music	
Welcome	Kathleen Phillips
Words of Grace	Juanita Legard
Dinner	
Anointed Grace	Immanuel UMC
Introduction of Speaker	Kathleen Conrad
Evening Message	Pat Cobb
Announcements & Benediction	Libby Rickey

SATURDAY MORNING	**8:30 A.M.**
UMW Sings	
Opening Hymn	*We've Come This Far By Faith*
Devotional	Rev. Erica Jenkins
Hymn	#430
Introduction of Speaker	Kathleen Conrad
Message	Pat Cobb
Pledge Service	Jeannette McCalman
Offertory Prayer	
Doxology	
Registration Report	Joyce Thibodeaux
Recognition of Teen & College Women	Jo Traweek
Special Mission Recognition	Lueburda Myers
Installation of Officers	Norma Winegeart
Invitation to the 2005 Annual Meeting	
Announcements	
Adjournment of Annual Meeting	

******BREAK******

Special Music	Heritage-Choral Ensemble Clarence Jones, Director
Communion Meditation	Bishop William Hutchinson
Holy Communion	Bishop William Hutchinson, Communion Celebrant
Closing Hymn	
Postlude	

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Attention all districts: Please send programs, pictures, news articles, etc. from your 135th Anniversary Celebration to:

Janet Ward, Conference Historian
496 Tiger Lake Rd.
Lecompte, LA 71346

Introducing the 2004 Annual Meeting Program Participants

Pat Cobb
Guest Speaker

Pat Cobb joined the Wesleyan Service Guild at age 19. She has been active in WSCS and UMW at all levels, holding many local, district and conference offices, including president of each. Pat currently serves her church as Council on Ministries Chairperson, Hand bell Director and choir member. She has been married to Earl for 52 years, they have four children and seven grandchildren. Pat is now the President of the South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group United Methodist Women, and her goal is to help revitalize and invigorate units of UMW and help instill in them a passion for mission and service. Pat will be the speaker for the Friday afternoon session and the Friday evening banquet.

Bishop William W. Hutchinson

Bishop William W. Hutchinson is the presiding Bishop of the Louisiana Conference since 2000. He came to us from the New Mexico Conference Foundation. Bishop Hutchinson received his B.A. Degree from the University of Oklahoma, a Masters of Divinity from Duke University, and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from McMurray University. He is a member of the General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the Division of Ordained Ministry. He and his wife Kay have two sons, John and Mark and one granddaughter, Madison Ann, daughter of Mark and Laura. Bishop Hutchinson will be the Communion Celebrant.

Rev. Roger D. Lathan
Acadiana District
Superintendent

Rev. Roger Dale Lathan was born in New Orleans, LA and reared in Baton Rouge. Rev. Lathan is the District Superintendent of the Acadiana District and cabinet liaison to the Conference Board of Laity. He received his Master of Theology Degree at Perkins School of Theology, Dallas Texas. He is married to the former Sedonia Phillips of Baldwin, LA. Rev. Lathan will bring greetings on behalf of the Acadiana District.

Dr. T. Edward Boyd, Jr.
Host Pastor

Rev. T. Edward Boyd, Jr. serves as the senior pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church. Rev. Boyd will bring greetings on behalf of the Asbury Church Family.

Rev. Erica Jenkins

Rev. Erica R. Jenkins is an Elder in Full Connection serving her fifth year as Pastor of St. Peter and Mallalieu United Methodist Churches. She graduated from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA, receiving a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts degree. Rev. Jenkins will bring the opening meditation on Saturday.

Rev. Ann Sutton

Rev. Ann Sutton is the Associate Pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church, where she serves as minister to children and their families. Rev. Sutton also pastors the Spiritwind Contemporary Service at Asbury. Rev. Sutton will deliver the afternoon meditation for the 1:00 P.M. session on Friday.

Song Leader
Annette Fortuna

Pianist
Jackie Pennington

Libby Rickey
Local Arrangements
Chairperson

2004 MISSION RIBBON

The mission ribbons will be available at the Annual Meeting Registration area. You may write or call Jeannette McCalman, Conference Treasurer, to find out the availability of the ribbons you need. At that time, the ribbons will be set aside for you and held until Annual Meeting, or until you send your payment. Write to 715 W. Palmetto Ave., Plain Dealing, LA 71064, or call 318-226-5921. Or you may e-mail gjmccalman@juno.com. All proceeds will go toward our Conference Pledge to Mission. This year's design is the same as our program logo. Also, there will be a limited number of mission ribbons from past years available.

Special Music by Heritage

Heritage is a community ensemble, organized in 1976 in Baton Rouge, LA by its director, Clarence Jones. Heritage was organized for the purpose of restoring and preserving the performance of the Negro spiritual in its original form—A Capella. Since 1976, the choir has participated in numerous civic and cultural activities; concerts have been presented in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, and Mexico City, Mexico. In June 1990, the ensemble performed at the American Church in Paris, France, and in an audience with the Pope in Rome, Italy. Additionally, the ensemble has received a number of awards and citations, recorded two albums and a cassette tape of their favorite spirituals, and appeared in several documentaries. Heritage, a non-profit organization of a legacy, a distinctive sound, harmoniously blends a dark past with a bright future...and keeps the vision alive.

MISSION CANDLE

2004 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	**$ .59**
1 MINUTE	**$ 35.18**
5 MINUTES	**$ 175.88**
1 HOUR	**$2,110.58**

The lighting of the MISSION CANDLE will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 24-25, 2004 at Asbury UMC in Lafayette, LA. The Candle was first burned at the 1979 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the Tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present and future as women organized for mission. Units and individuals will want to be a part of this meaningful expression of our united commitment to a worldwide program of mission outreach.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY or IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. This goal can be realized if every unit gives 1 minute or more for the MISSION CANDLE. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift requirement. All monies are incorporated into each District's PLEDGE TO MISSION.

Please use the form below to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the form with your check to your District Treasurer by September first.

PLEASE TYPE PRINT—(If more space is needed, attach additional sheets. DO NOT write on back)

Individual/Unit submitting form:_____

Church:_____ District:_____

City:_____ Phone: ( )_____

Given by: Name of Individual/Unit In HONOR of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

Given by: Name of Individual/Unit In MEMORY of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____

Mission Offering: On Saturday morning of Annual Meeting an offering will be taken for Undesignated Giving. Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the "Mission Candle" and "One Second of Your Time" as you honor loved ones. These gifts help increase our Gift to Mission and keep the Mission Candle burning as long as possible during the Annual Meeting.

Special Offering for District and Conference Retiring Officers

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of year to contribute to a Special Offering in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in United Methodist Women. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "Thank You" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will apply to your District's Pledge To Mission.

Your contributions in the past have been very generous. The retiring officers appreciate this acknowledgement of their service in mission. We know you will want to continue this fine tradition and participate in honoring those women who are retiring this year.

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their annual meetings in October and November.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son... John 3:16

WORLD THANK OFFERING

What a wonderful gift God gave us, and what a better way to show our thanks than through our gifts to the World Thank Offering during October. Inserted in this newsletter you will find your October calendar and 31-Derful Ways TO Say Thanks. Isn't it fun to use it each day to collect the money we will use for this offering? Drop the coins into a small box or jar each day and watch it accumulate. Then bring it to your Unit Meeting when you have the World Thank Offering Service.

LA Conference UMW 2004 SLATE OF NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

Nominated for a two year term: 2005-2006

VICE PRESIDENT:
Edna Hickman (BR)
10615 Clearview Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70811
225-774-7259

TREASURER:
Jane Eubank (NS)
44040 Parker Blvd.
Hammond, LA 70403
985-419-8741

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR:
Beverly Cox (NS)
14111 Gracie Rd.
Folsom, LA 70437
985-796-9820 Bev+cox@aol.com

SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR:
Jeanne Green (NO)
9890 E. Wheaton Circle
New Orleans, LA 70127
504-241-0842 JeanneBG01@aol.com

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION, CHAIRPERSON:
Evelyn Martin (NO) Class of 2008
6211 Providence Place
New Orleans, LA 70126
504-282-7731

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION, MEMBER:
Kathleen Tom (A) Class of 2008
243 Price Rd.
Pollock, LA 71467
318-765-3720

Submitted by:
Staphenae Carey,
Nomination Committee Chairperson

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDING RULES & GUIDELINES

The Executive Committee submits the following recommendations for approval by delegates to the 2004 Annual Meeting in Lafayette, LA:

Recommendation I -
Currently approved under Article VII (Funds) Constitution and Bylaws, section 5, page 25:
Lodging for Executive Officers of LA Conference UMW attending conference events may be reimbursed at a rate up to $15.00 per day.
Proposed Changed: Lodging for Executive Officers of LA Conference UMW attending conference events may be reimbursed at a rate up to $22.50 per day.
Rationale: The increase is necessary due to the rising cost of lodging.

Recommendation II -
Addition to Article VII (Funds) Constitution and Bylaws, section 5, page 25:

II. $300.00 to be budgeted annually for Young Women to attend Jurisdiction and Conference events.
   A. $200.00 shall be allocated for South Central Jurisdictional meeting for college age women.
   B. $100.00 per year for Conference School of Christian Mission for teen women.

Rationale: To provide opportunities for leadership development and nurture for Teen and College age Women.

Submitted by: Evelyn Martin, Standing Rules & Guidelines Chairperson

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
Goals to be adopted for the Year 2005

In keeping with the Purpose of United Methodist Women in 2005 we will:

I. As **A Community of Women**, our goal will be to increase membership by:
   - A. Seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist.
   - B. Creating more District Units to include at least one prison unit.
   - C. Increasing the membership in units by creating teen, college/university age and newly retired women's circles.

II. Our goal will be to encourage children, youth and women to **Know God** by:
   - A. Promoting Conference, district, and local unit mission studies a outlined by the Women's Division with emphasis on encouragement, continuation and improvement of public education.
   - B. Educating the community and officials.
   - C. Incorporating the use of the Prayer Calendar in daily devotions.

III. Our goal will be to continue to **Develop A Creative Supportive Fellowship** by:
   - A. Observing UMW Sunday (membership emphasis Sunday) on January 23, 2005, or an alternate date, in every unit throughout the conference.
   - B. Collection items as outlined in the current Material Resources for Mission Catalog, and presenting these items at the UMW Annual Meeting to Women's Division Projects in Louisiana—Dulac Cooperative Ministry, MacDonell United Methodist Children's Services, St. Mark's Community Center, Sager-Brown/ UMCOR, and Church Women United.

IV. Our goal will be to **Expand Concepts of Mission** by:
   - A. Encouraging District and Local Units to use the 2005 Program Book, Response Magazine, and the Prayer Calendar in program planning.
   - B. Promoting and assisting each Local and District Unit in becoming a Mission Today Unit.
   - C. Completing the requirements for membership in the Charter Club for Racial Justice.
   - D. Increasing the number of participants in the Reading Program by 5%.
   - E. Participating and supporting the programming of Church Women United, and the World Federation of Methodist Women and Church women United.

V. We will continue to **Participate in the Global Ministries of the Church** by:
   - A. Paying our pledge to mission in full.
   - B. Supporting and promoting our Mission Candle and Mission Ribbons.

Peace Pole: Monument To Peace

This Peace Pole was presented at the 30th Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women, September 19, 2003 at First UMC, Shreveport. The theme of the meeting was *PEACE*.

This Peace Pole was constructed by George McCalman, spouse of Jeanette McCalman, UMW Conference Treasurer. The word "peace" in five languages indigenous to our heritage is shown on the four sides of the pole—English, Spanish, French, and Creole to honor the Houma Indians. The latter represents our work at the Dulac Community Center. The Dulac Community Center is one of three Women's Division Projects of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church which is located in Dulac, LA.

The Peace Pole has been placed at the LA Conference Center located in Woodworth, LA. It is dedicated by the LA Conference United Methodist Women as a reminder to everyone who sees it to hold a prayer for world peace in their hearts, and to send a prayer for peace around the world.

READ READ READ

The Reading Program has grown steadily over the years and I believe that it will continue to do so. As credit for 2004, you may read books from the 1999 through 2004 Reading Program. We have given an extension to August 15, 2004 to get your unit's reading report in to your District SPR so that she may forward it to me by August 20, 2004. Districts that are engaged in a Children's Reading Program are reminded to include the names of the children who are readers so that they too can receive a certificate.

It is now time to start reading for the year 2005 (our reading year goes from August to July). The 2005 books will be available at our Annual Meeting in September. This year we will be able to order any current Reading Program Books and your orders will be sent to you, postage paid. The only requirements are that purchases must be made at a UMW event; they must be pre-paid; and you must order at least two (2) books. You can pay by cash or check. Many of you may know that this year we are having to charge tax on all purchases. The tax will be the sales tax rate for the area in which the event is held.

Special thanks to all of you for your support as I enter this new office. Special thanks to all District SPR's, Shirley Jacocks, our outgoing SPR, Penney Johnson, Alexandria District SPR, Rev. Lusinda Warren, and Mildred Moton, Baton Rouge, SPR.

Lana Lathan,

Conference Secretary of Program Resources

Words to Treasure

The bad news is —we did not meet our pledge in 2003. The good news is — in 2003 we did exceed our undesignated giving over the prior year. So far, 2004 does not look great. In the first quarter, our undesignated giving was below 2001, 2002 and 2003 by an average of 15%. In the second quarter, undesignated giving was below the same years by an average of 18.6%. What has happened? The year is 50% over and so far we have given only 32.8% of our pledge of $240,000. We need to get busy giving. The needs in the mission field have not changed and it would be a sad story, if in our 135th Year Celebration of Faithful Giving , we fall short.

It is important that the third quarter report be on time! This is the last report for earning your Five Star Certificate. The Mission Candle reports will need to be in my hands by September 1st so that I can prepare the Candle Book.

Let's take advantage of this next quarter to be sure that we are covering all of our areas of giving. Remember, women and children all over the globe are counting on us and we cannot fail them!

Jeanette McCalman,
Conference Treasurer

District Elected Leadership Training

When: October 9, 2004
Where: LA Conference Center
Time: Registration 9:00—9:30 a.m. (Main Lobby)
Opening Worship 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Officers' Training 10:00—12 noon
Lunch and Dismissal 12:00—1:00 p.m.

For **All** Retuning and Newly Elected District and Conference Officers

Staphenae Carey, Chairperson
Mary Ann Monk, Co-Chairperson

Complete the form below if you are a returning or newly elected district officer even if you will not be able to attend so that materials can be reserved for you. Return to:
DELT
Attn: Staphenae Carey
9 Terazza Del Este
Harvey, LA 70058-2968

DELT REGISTRATION FORM

Name_____

Address_____

_____
City Zip

Phone_(_____)_____

Office Title_____

( ) New ( ) Returning

District_____

( ) I will attend

( ) I will be unable to attend

2004
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	Nov. 6	Sager-Brown, Baldwin
Alexandria	Oct. 2	Palestine
Baton Rouge	Nov. 6	Camphor, Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	Oct. 23	First UMC, Welsh
Monroe	Nov. 6	TBA
New Orleans	Oct. 30	Gretna
North Shore	TBA	
Ruston	Oct. 16	Wesley, Ruston
Shreveport	Oct. 15	First UMC, Shreveport

CONFERENCE UPCOMING EVENTS

2004

August		District Mini-Schools of Mission
September	24-25	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting Lafayette, LA
October	9	District Elected Leaders Training/DELT LA Conference Center
November	TBA	School Committee Mtg.

2005

January	23	UMW Sunday
February	18-19	Midyear Executive Mtg.
March	26	Finance, Membership, Program and Nominations Committee Meetings
June		UMW Regional School of Mission
July	20-23	UMW Conference School of Christian Mission
October	8	DELT

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

September 24-25, 2004
Asbury United Methodist Church
101 Live Oak Blvd.
Lafayette,, LA

Send Registration to: Jeanette McCalman
715 West Palmetto Avenue
Plain Dealing, La 71064
(318) 326-5921
gjmccalman@juno.com

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW
Pre-Registration Fee $ 8.00
Onsite Registration Fee $10.00
Banquet Fee $18.00

Name_____

Address_____

_____
City Zip Code

Phone__(_____)_____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

☐ Conference Office—Specify_____
☐ Conference Executive Committee_____
☐ District Office—Specify_____
☐ Former conference President or Guild Secretary
☐ Retired Missionary or Deaconess
☐ Local Unit Member ☐ Voting Delegate
☐ Guest

MEALS

☐ Friday Lunch ☐ Saturday Breakfast ☐ Saturday Lunch
☐ Banquet (non-refundable) Include with registration

Church_____
City_____ District_____
Number in Unit_____
Where will you be staying during meeting?_____
Will child care service be needed?_____
Age of child/children (none older than 10 years)_____

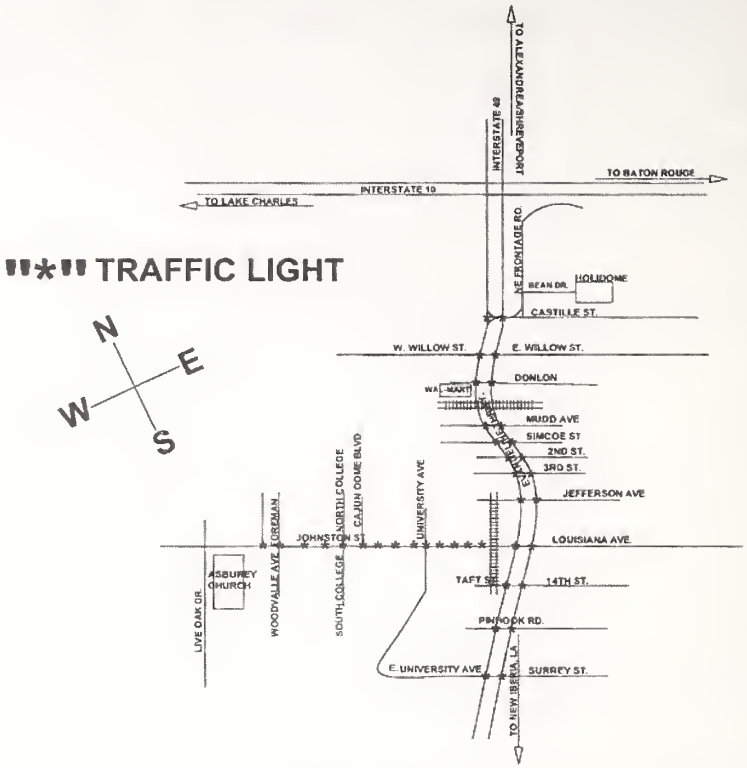
NOTE: Registration fee includes: Cost of insurance from time of departure until return home, registration packet, and a portion of meeting expenses.

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. January Newsletter—due date December 3, 2004, May Newsletter—due date April 1, 2005 and August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2005.

Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by:
Mail—3509 North 38th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70805
Fax—225-355-7726 or

E-mail
missbjc@bellsouth.net

UMW ANNUAL MEETING 2004



Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

Lois Patten
1625 Thomas Blvd.
Bogalusa, LA 70427

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Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXIX No. 1 January 2005

Retreat 2005

Theme: "Sisters in Spirit, Scripture, Solidity

Scripture: John 4: 5-42

Friday—Saturday, February 18-19, 2005

Louisiana Conference Center

Andris Salter

Retreat Spiritual Leader

Ms. Salter is the Assistant General Secretary of Administration, Women's Division. She has served as Executive Secretary for Environmental Justice, Women's Division and previously worked for the Division with conference organizations and for the General Council of Ministries as the Coordinator of Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century. She is a seasoned workshop leader on racism, financial promotion, goal setting, leadership development, membership, and has taught at numerous Schools of Christian Mission.

In March 2004, Ms Salter was the Bible Study leader for the South Central Jurisdiction UMW meeting in San Antonio, TX, theme -"Vessels of Mission." Andris shared the importance of women in her life who modeled for her what it meant to be a Christian and what God expected of her. Addressing all the women as vessels of God's mission, she said, "Isn't it fantastic that we have a God that can, and has used this empty vessel to do good works, to be something wonderful; and when we get old, cracked, broken, lost, fragile, we are not put out to pasture, for the potter still has a purpose for us."

Come and be a part of fun, spiritual fellowship as we build sisterhood and community among ourselves and the world. In time like these, we need each other. The blood of Christ make us one Christian family, sisters in deed. God has a blessing for you!

Register Today!

The Peace of Meditation

My Christian Friends,

As we prepare our hearts and minds for spiritual retreat, let us find peace and solace, comfort and consolation, moral and emotional strength within through the peace of meditation. These selected phrases speak to preparation for inner peace:

So that we may know God better
And feel His quiet power,
Let us daily keep in silence
A meditation hour---
For to understand God's greatness
And to use His gifts each day
The soul must learn to meet Him
In a meditative way---
For our Father tells His children
That if they would know His will
They must seek Him in silence
When all is calm and still---
God comes closest to us
When our souls are in repose
So let us plan with prayerful care
To always allocate
A certain portion of each day
To be still and meditate---
For when everything is quiet
And we're lost in meditation,
Our soul is then preparing
For a deeper dedication
That will make it wholly possible
To quietly endure
The violent world around us---
For in God we are secure.

Selected Phrases
From Heart Gifts

Our Conference United Methodist Women executive committee extends an invitation to all to come to experience quiet moments with God in an atmosphere of peace and prayer to prepare the soul for deeper dedication. Please come.

Luebruda Jamison Myers, President
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

New Members of the Conference Leadership Team

Edna Hickman
Vice President
Baton Rouge District

Jane Eubanks
Treasurer
Baton Rouge District

Edna is the Past President and Past Vice President of St. Mark United Methodist Women in Baton Rouge and Past Vice President of the Baton Rouge District United Methodist Women. She has also served her local UMW unit as Coordinator of Social Action and presently serves as Chairperson of the L.B. Lewis Christian Involvers Study Group. She serves her local church (St. Mark) as Communications Chairperson, Communion Stewart, member of the Sanctuary Choir and Female Ensemble. Edna is currently the Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Southern University, Baton Rouge Campus.

Jane began her work as a district officer in 1982 where she served as Mission Coordinator for Christian Social Involvement for one year with the New Orleans-Slidell District, then Christian Personhood for three years and Treasurer for three years. In 1995 she became Vice President for four years. Jane was the chairperson for UMW Annual Meeting held at St. Timothy UMC in Mandeville. Jane taught school for 28 years in Mathematics and Family and Consumer Science. Jane is a mother of four children and grandmother of eight. She is married to Rev. William Eubanks. Jane's love of sewing and a new granddaughter is leading her in new directions. She has started a monogram and embroidery business—"Embroidery Creatively by Jane".

Not Shown

Evelyn Martin
Nomination Committee
Chairperson
New Orleans District

Beverly Cox
Spiritual Growth
Coordinator
New Orleans District

More Retreat Information

Retreat Schedule:

Friday, February 18, 2005

10:00 am—12 noon.....Registration
Lunch
1:00 pm –6:00 pm .....Retreat Sessions
Dinner
7:00 pm—8:30 pm.....Retreat Session

Saturday, February 19, 2005

Breakfast
7:00 am—12 noon.....Retreat Session
Lunch
1:00 pm—3:00 pm.....Retreat Wrap-Up
Offering
Communion

Retreat Text Resources:

Conduct: Becoming To A Woman?
by Elaine Magalis

Clothed with the Sun: Biblical Women; Social Justice & Us
by Joyce Hollyday

Just A Sister Away
by Renita Weens

We Belong Together: The Churches in Solidarity with Women
Sarah Cunningham, Editor

Jesus and Courageous Women
by Elsa Tamez

Family: Drawing the Family Wide
by J. Ann Craig and Linda Elminger

Retreat Task Group:

Rita Parham.....Chairperson
Brenda Canty.....Co-Chairperson & Publicity
Edna Hickman.....Vice President/Program Book
Jane Eubanks.....Treasurer & Registration/ Housing
Beverly Cox.....Meditation Room/Table Graces
Murial Miller.....Local Arrangements
Lueburda Myers.....Ex-Officio

United Methodist Women Celebrate UMW Sunday

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will celebrate UMW Sunday, traditionally on Sunday, January 23, 2005. The 2005 theme, "Faith" is an invitation to membership in a organization of women who are advocates for women, children and youth.

The organization of UMW has been in existence for over 135 years. Today, there are one million plus members in over 25,000 local units in the United States.

Membership in UMW offers participation in and with a unique community of women focused on world-wide mission and encourages the development and use of leadership skills.

The conference membership goals for 2005 are to increase the membership by seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist, create more District units to include at least one prison unit, and increase the membership in existing units by creating teen college/university age and newly retired women circles.

The UMW Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate membership and invite others to join. The Conference UMW celebration is made special with the purchase and wearing of UMW Ribbons. Ribbons can be purchased by contacting the District UMW Treasurer. The UMW Ribbon, embossed with logo and theme, are collectors items, and an invitation to membership. Interested women are welcome to join their local church unit, charge group, or to become a district member.

A Note From E & I

To all the women who are interested in knowing what is going on in missions and in social action (and I TRUST that means ALL of us). Greetings and Happy New Year! After receiving the hundreds of registration forms for the UMW's Action Network filled out at the Annual Meeting in September, Susie Johnson, Executive Secretary for Public Policy, wrote a lovely thank you note for our commitment and support of the Action Network. I hope you have been receiving and reading the e-mailed Action Alerts. The latest one about internally displaced persons and the armed conflict in Colombia was eye-opening. Pass these items on to non-UMW people and open their eyes also.

District Education and Interpretation Coordinators, it is about time to send out the forms for recognition and excellence of studies. Even if you did this earlier, it would not hurt to repeat this and remind your local counterparts that June 1 is the deadline for getting the forms back to you. Be sure your name and address are on these reports. Also, copying them on a bright color paper makes them much more likely to stay "unlost."

Shalom!

Carolyn Colvin,
Education &
Interpretation

Words From Your Treasurer

My time with you has come to a close and I cannot begin to express to everyone the appreciation I have for every woman who accepts an office in UMW, whether on the conference, district or local level. Dedication is the only word that could possibly describe women who accept jobs and give of their time AND their money in ways that go beyond their responsibilities to the home church they attend. Many of you hold positions in the local church as well as the UMW.

Your faithfulness in the units has made it possible for our conference to go above and beyond what should be expected from you. I cannot give you a financial picture at this time because the newsletter will be going to press before I have made my final report. However, the information will be forthcoming and we can all look forward to our association with our new Conference Treasurer, Jane Eubanks

Jeanette
McCalman,
Treasurer

How Can We Help Tsunami Relief?

The United Methodist Church has a respected organization, United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, that responds quickly and efficiently to disasters. Their warehouse in Baldwin, LA stocks supplies for such disasters. This disaster, however, will require much more. Contributions can be made through any United Methodist Church, Advance #274305

Reading is Fundamental

First, let me thank you for all of your help and support with the duties and operation of the resource room even in the midst of your own duties and activities during our conference events this year. Together we made a successful completion to sales during our 2004 School of Missions, Annual meeting & DELT events . The ordering, opening of boxes, counting, sorting, checking and re-checking , the calculating and shipping are all very detailed and time consuming. Many hands made quicker and easier work. Without the help and support of the district SPR counterparts, the work and office responsibilities would indeed be overwhelming.

For the 2004 SCM, our instructors for the various courses were contacted regarding their needs for their individual classrooms and instruction. Through use of the resources of Service Center and the public and state libraries, we were able to supply the classes with the requested and needed audio visuals. There were no audio visuals specific to the study of public education. Some of those shown during our Regional School would have cost $200 or more. Therefore, through research and communication with the library system, Education videos were secured for this study at no cost to the conference. Since we will repeat the study of public education this year, we will make the same efforts to secure appropriate resources.

The two study videos (Cuba: Three Faith Perspectives and What Good is Prayer) were purchased by the conference UMW and have been placed in the library collection at the Methodist Conference Office in Baton Rouge, LA. The tapes can be secured from that office and loaned statewide. The office can be contacted @ 225-346-1646. Ask for Shirleen , Librarian. There is a small postage fee attached for this service.

Again this year we have completed a listing of the 2005 reading program books and their call numbers that are available in the library. This gives us more opportunity to access the books by borrowing from the library, getting credit for reading and being successful in completing one or more plans. Copies of this listing are available from your district SPR or can be supplied by me as your conference SPR.

We look forward to continuing to promote reading by and for our children. They are also an investment for us and our work through UMW. Units across the conference are encouraged to purchase children's books and to share them with your children and grandchildren. Through the basics of the Children's Reading Program developed by the Northshore District, we look forward to continuing the promotion of reading for all ages. Many thanks to those districts that had children who participated in this year's reading program. Guidelines were graciously shared with the conference regarding development of a children's reading program. Keeping it very simple with a requirement of at least five (5) books being completed, the program has been very successful. Please try to implement this emphasis in your district and within your local units. Help develop and nourish our children through reading!

Program Resources is a very expensive and valuable endeavor for UMW. It's an investment in our knowledge and preparation for mission work. Let'me encourage all of our members to read and share this wonderful program with others.. not just your sisters in UMW but also with your friends, neighbors, your pastors and any others who would appreciate information that will truly be "Your Window to the World".

Thank you for your attention, support and encouragement.

Lana Lathan,
Secretary of
Program Resources

LA Conference United Methodist Women Attended Leadership Training Event

(Left to right : Kathleen Thom, Beverly Cox, Edna Hickman (standing), Jane Eubanks)

Four (4) newly elected officers of the LA Conference UMW joined over 355 other newly elected officers from throughout the United States in St. Louis, Missouri the weekend of November 19-20 to attend a Leadership Training Event. Representing LA were: Edna Hickman, Vice President from the Baton Rouge District, Jane Eubanks, Treasurer from the North Shore, Beverly Cox, Spiritual Growth Coordinator from the North Shore, and Kathleen Tom, Member of the Committee on Nomination from the Alexander. Also representing LA was Kathleen Conrad, outgoing Conference Vice President and now a Women's Division Director from the Lafayette District. This event was sponsored by the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church.

The officers received training in their respective areas as well as attended several plenary sessions which included inspirational singing, outstanding speakers bring forth the Word of God, videos about the history of the organization, and a variety of other events. President of the Women's Division, Kyung Za Yim, welcomed the group.

Some of the outstanding women of God who spoke to the officers included: Andris Salter, Assistant General Secretary in Administration, Cheryl Trent, Assistant General Secretary for the Section of Membership and Organization, and the closing Worship Service message was an inspiring challenge given by Jan Love, Deputy General Secretary. Her message was entitled, "Being Free and Blessed."

Reflections of the 31st LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting:

A processional of United Methodist Women carrying custom designed banners representing each District's interpretation of 135 Years of women in mission began the Annual Meeting that was held at Asbury UMC in Lafayette, LA. The theme, "135 Years By Faith." The theme song, "Move Forward By Faith," which was written by Acadiana District's Treasurer, Joyce Thibodeaux. The mission candle burned for 5 hours, 15 minutes and 21 seconds. Each minute represented $35.18, which was the cost of one minute of mission support in the year 2004. Bishop William Hutchinson extended greetings in a poetic form (written on page 7).

Continued on page 8

A Meetin' in Lafayette

An Ode to the United Methodist Women of Louisiana
September 24, 2004

The Acadiana Annies all went in to Lafayette
They were gonna have a meetin'
The best that's ever been organized yet.
They were hosting their many sisters
And a brother or two as well
They were comin' from Golden Meadow
And all the way up to Spring Hill

Sally Sue was there from Shreveport and Minnie from Monroe
Lucy Couvillon from Lake Charles was there for all to know
Bony Rony from Baton Rouge was joined by Alexandria Amy Lou
And Nanette Oliviette from New Orleans showed up too.

They came to see each other and to do a little biz
For the group that they belong to is the greatest that there is!
It's called the UMW, that's an acronym for Undisputed Meteoric Whiz
If you don't believe my praises, let me ask a little quiz.

Who cooks the bestest suppers? Why the UMW of course,
And who knows the most about Missions? It ain't the men who are out in force!
And what about giving dollars? Now here they really shine
It's all about tens and hundreds, and not just nickels and dimes

Who spruces up the parlors? Who washes the meanest dish?
Who collects all the coupons and answers an institutions wish
For busses and silver and computers, and administrators too?
Why the UMW, they're the ones, to make one dollar stretch to two.

And when you're down on your luck and you can't find a home
The UMW comes along and throws in one more bone
To stretch the soup and mend the clothes that all might live a life
That's filled with dignity and honor, and not just so much strife.

So here's to the Acadiana Annies and the rest of you as well,
Thanks from this old bishop for the women who can tell
The unbounded love of Jesus, both in word as well as deed
You're the best Louisiana has to offer, that is essentially guaranteed.

May the meetin' be a good one and when all is said and done
May you go back to your bayou with a sense that all are one
In the love and service to Jesus and the care of humankind
Till all hearts and doors are opened as are the frontiers of our mind

And Jesus is the first and the only force we know
Who can set our hearts to racing and our spirits all aglow.
For we have a story to tell and a savior to lift on high
So get on now with your meetin' after this simple and heartfelt "Hi!"

William N. Hutchinson

2005 UMW Conference Events

January	23	UMW Sunday
February	17	Mid-year Executive Com. Mtg.
February	18-19	UMW Spiritual Retreat
March	26	Finance, Membership, Program & Nominations Committee Meetings
June	11-14	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission
July	20-23	UMW Conference School of Christian Mission
September	16-17	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting
October	8	UMW District Elected Leaders Training (DELT)
November	19	Program and School Committee Meetings

WOMEN'S DIVISION UPDATE

Women's Division Start-Up Grants to assist District Units.

Circles and Subgroups (within the local unit) of teens and college/university women are available for the 2004-2008 quadrennial. Grant applications will be reviewed as they are received and awarded upon review (usually within 30 days of receipt). Only those applications meeting the specified criterion will be awarded. Grants may not exceed $500.00. Applications may be obtained from:

Executive Secretary for Membership

475 Riverside Drive, Room 1501, New York, NY 10115

E-mail request for applications: youngumw@gbgm-umw.org

Continued from page 6

Pat Cob, newly elected President of the South Central Jurisdiction was the keynote speaker for the two-day event. Among those joining the celebration were Rev. Roger Lathan, Heritage of Baton Rouge, Jan Winfield from the Women's Division staff, and Bishop John Ennis of Liberia.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR TRADE

Trade a hum-drum life for one of love, fellowship, learning experience, and mission work. Join United Methodist Women today! We need you, you need us. There would be no UMW without U.

NOTICES

The Women's Division will continue to recommend the study of three topics each year for Schools of Christian Mission. It is the hope that by offering each geographic and general issue study for two years, more persons will have an opportunity to explore each theme.

Plans are already underway for the 2005 Conference School of Christian Mission—July 2—23. Come to learn about Children of the Bible, and then choose either Public Education (a repeat study from last year) or India and Pakistan. The classes, study leaders, sharing and fellowship all promise to be outstanding. Don't miss it! Sandy DeCelle, Dean

INVITATION

The Monroe District invites all United Methodist Women to the 2005 LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting scheduled for September 16-17 at the First United Methodist Church in Monroe. Plan to attend now. More details will be forthcoming.

URGENT SPECIAL NOTICES

Contributions to the Estelle Dameron Scholarship Fund have been far below the usual in the past two years. The cost of attendance to the School of Christian Mission has also risen in this same time period. In order to keep this scholarship active, we must make our unit contributions in a timely manner so that funds will be available in July. We are encouraging local units and individuals to make contributions to the scholarship fund by giving it to your unit treasurer by February so that she can send it in with her February 15 report.

Applications for the 2005-2007 Teen Women's Consultative Group and College/University Women's Consultative Group are now available. Teen women applications must be 12-17 (grades 6-12) for the 2005-2006 academic year. College/University Women must be ages 19-25 and enrolled in an academic or vocational program at least part-time for the 2005-2006 academic year. Adult women must be a least 26 years of age and currently working with the respective age groups. ALL MUST BE MEMBERS OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN. Application Deadline is February 28, 2005.

Calling One and All!

Let Your Creative Juices Flow!

And participate in the call to Design the Program Cover for this year's theme for Schools of Christian Mission

WEST GULF REGIONAL SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION
Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries
The united Methodist Church

PROGRAM BOOK ART FORM

Each Conference is asked to request the participation of artists or anyone interested in creating a logo that can be used in the Schools of Mission for 2005.
>The logo design is to illustrate the artist's concept of the current theme.
>The logo should be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" white paper, copy ready.
>The logo should be submitted in black and white and, if possible, color as well.
>We must have copyright authorization and agreement as noted below.
>A brief statement of what the drawing represents must accompany the art.

The chosen logo will be used for the cover of the West Gulf Regional School Program Book and is usually chosen by Conference Schools of Mission also. It may also be used on a banner and a power point presentation. Logos that are not chosen for the cover will be displayed in other ways and the persons submitting will be recognized.

THEME: "CORNERSTONES FOR HOPE"

Below is the form to be completed by the submitting artist(s) along with the logo design . Also listed is a sample statement placed in a previous Program Book. This sample can be used as a reference.
Example: Theme Illustration & statement: Seeking Shalom
"seeking shalom" is seeking peace. The bird symbolizes peace and the hands symbolize God releasing peace up to al who would accept. If it were possible for one to rewind a moment in time like we rewind a videotape, one could see God releasing the "dove of peace" and its flight to those who would accept. In accepting this peace from God, we can then share the "shalom" with others we come in contact with.

Name of person(s) submitting: _____
Address_____ **Email**_____
Telephone_____ **Occupation**_____
Conference_____ **Church**_____
Permission to use art work_____

Signature of submitter_____
(In 50 words or less, write a brief statement of what the drawing represents. Please continue on back if needed)

All entries must be submitted by *February 15, 2005*
Please send to: Lana P. Lathan, Louisiana Conference SPR
131 Ogden Drive, Baton Rouge, LA. 70806-5013

THE ESTELLE DAMERON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women annually provides interested women an opportunity to attend its School of Christian Mission through the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Fund. The scholarship continues to grow in Mrs. Dameron's honor through gifts, special offerings, and yearly contributions from local UMW units. This tradition is even more important as we prepare for mission in the year 2005 and beyond.

The Membership Nurture and Outreach Committee is encouraging young, seasoned, energetic, single, married, employed, homemakers, students or newly retired women to apply for a scholarship. Applicants can come from a large or small unit, and we will also consider persons other than members of United Methodist Women. Getting women interested in mission at an early age and at new life stages is one way to insure the vitality and growth of an educated, mission minded membership. Please urge women in these age/interest categories to apply. All applicants should indicate a willingness to attend and participate fully in all activities of the school. One applicant per unit and **first timers ONLY** should send a completed application form with a written statement of 50 words or less, entitled: **I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because. . .**

Applications must be postmarked by May 31, 2005, and mailed to: Jo Traweek
110 Pinewood Dr.
West Monroe, LA 71291

Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant_____Phone ( )_____

Applicant's Address_____State____Zip_____

Unit (church) Name_____District_____

Unit President or Contact Person_____

President or Church Address_____State_____Zip_____

(1) Has applicant attended a School of Christian Mission before?
___ Yes
___ No

(2) Applicant's age grouping
___ High School
___ Under 35
___ 36-50
___ 51 and older

(3) Employment:
___ Full time
___ Part time
___ Retired
___ Student
___ Homemaker

(4) Applicant's choice of study:
___ Public Education
___ India & Pakistan

INCLUDE A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF FIFTY (50) WORDS OF LESS TELLING WHY YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION. (A separate sheet may be used.)

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2005 RETREAT

February 18 - 19, 2005
Louisiana Conference Center

Name:_____

Address:_____

City & Zip:_____

Phone No. _____

Church:_____

District:_____

Names of Requested Roommates

_____

_____

_____

Special Needs:
No stairs (state reason):_____
Other handicapping conditions:_____

EMERGENCY FORM

Person to notify in case of Emergency:
Name:_____
Address:_____
_____
Phone: ( )_____
Bring with you:
1. Insurance Card
2. Doctor's Name and Phone Number
3. Bring all prescription drugs & OTC drugs you might need.
NOTE: We will dispense NO medications on premises.

Please indicate below your intentions regarding lunch.

I will arrive in time for lunch on Friday _____.

I will NOT arrive in time for lunch on Friday _____.

Registration fee is $10.00.

Retreat Registration and Housing Information

All participants will be housed at the Louisiana Conference Center. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis. Rooms have two double beds and bath and there are a limited number of first floor accommodations. Please note special needs on registration form. **Cost is based on number of persons per room and is payable to the Conference Center upon arrival. The costs of rooms & meals is stated below and includes 2 lunches, 1 supper and 1 breakfast. If you will not be arriving until after the noon hour on Friday, please indicate this on your registration form so there will be a count for the noon meal that day. Adjustments to the cost will be made at the time you register at the Conference Center. Registration is from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Lunch will be from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM and the first session of the Retreat will begin at 1:00 PM.**

The cost is as follows and includes meals:
3 or 4 to a room $62.00 per person
2 to a room $65.00 per person
1 to a room $81.00 per person

Due to cafeteria style arrangements for preparing and serving food, special diets are not available. Care will be taken to try to provide low fat, low sodium items at meals.

OFFERING - The offering taken at the Retreat will go toward the Conference Pledge to Missions as Undesignated.

DIRECTIONS

From Baton Rouge: take I-10 west toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. Take Woodworth exit off I-49, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles)
From New Orleans: take I-10 west toward Lafayette, exit North on I-49. Take Woodworth exit off I-49, follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (182 miles)
From Shreveport: take I-49 South through Alexandria. Take the Woodworth exit, and follow the signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)

Deadline for registration - February 7, 2005

Send Registration and $10.00 fee to:
Jane Eubanks
44040 Parker Blvd.
(985) 419-8741
Hammond LA 70403

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW
Emergency phone number: 318-449-4500

Inside this issue:

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Retreat Registration Form	*11*

A Publication of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, recipes are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year. Due dates are: May Newsletter—due date April 1, 2005, August Newsletter—due date July 1, 2004, January Newsletter– due date December 1, 2005.
Send your article/s to Brenda Canty by: Mail—3509 North 38th St. Baton Rouge, LA 70805. Fax—225-355-7726

E-mail
missbjc@bellsouth.net

Evening brings rest for active souls.

Gracious Lord, Thank you for the strength you have given me today.

Bless this food that it may nourish my body with new energy and hope, & with clear vision and Purpose, as I stand with my sisters in in Christ to do Your will.

Amen

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
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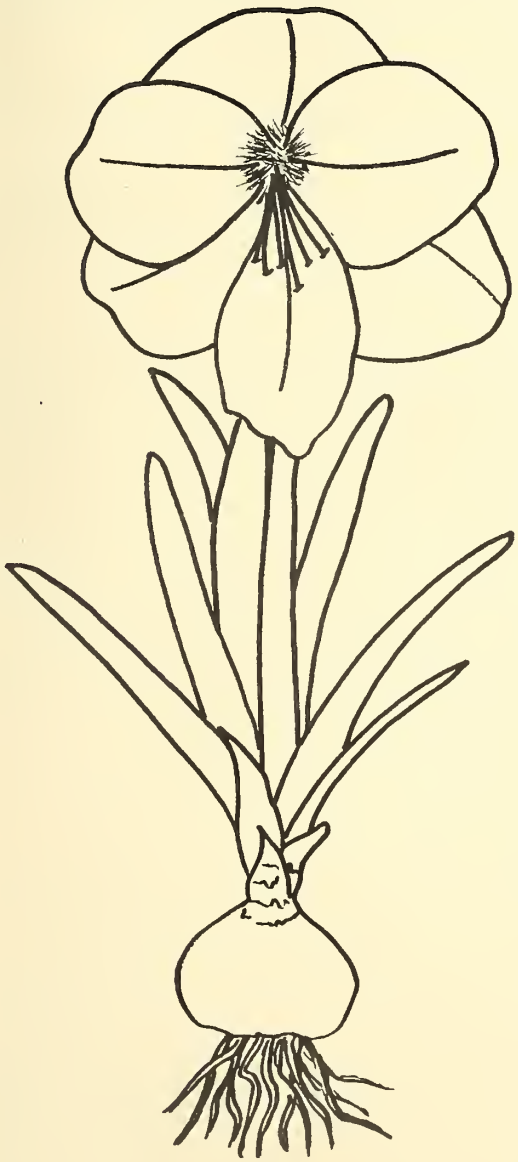
Louisiana Conference
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume XXIX No. 3 August 2005

The 32nd Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women's Annual Meeting September 16-17, 2005



UMW
2006
MISSION ALIVE

The 32nd Annual Meeting of the LA Conference United Methodist Women will convene at 1:00 p.m., Friday, September 16, 2005 in the sanctuary of First United Methodist Church, Monroe, LA.

We are celebrating *Mission Alive.* Just as the flower blossoms from the bulb, God takes a common bulb and makes it into a beautiful flower, so God calls each of us to blossom into something beautiful and Alive for Mission. The logo representing the theme *Mission Alive* was designed by Sandy DeCelle of First United Methodist Church, Monroe.

The theme *Mission Alive* is based on the scripture Matthew 25:40—"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Participants will be challenged continuously throughout the meeting to continue the 136 year history Methodist Women in mission.

Conference President, Lueburda Myers, will preside over the Annual Meeting. Welcoming UMW members and guests will be Bishop William Hutchinson of the Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church, Rev. Larry Stafford, pastor of the host church; Dr. Robert Burgess, Monroe District Superintendent; Sandy DeCelle, Monroe District UMW President, and Chairperson of Annual Meeting; and Jo Hale, Local Unit President and Annual Meeting Assistant Chairperson.

Sue C. Johnson, Women's Division staff member, who focuses on training conference and district leadership, will be the inspiring speaker for the Friday evening banquet, and the Saturday morning session. The opening meditation will be delivered by Rev. Jo Ann Sims.

The ladies throughout the Monroe District invite you to come and celebrate Mission Alive.

Sandy DeCelle, Chairperson

Jo Hale, Asst. Chairperson

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

Mission Alive in 2005!

This summons to the United Methodist Women's Annual Meeting is a formal invitation to our UMW sisters and all fellow Methodists across the Conference to be a part of our celebration of another year of spiritual growth and viable mission work. This is always a perfect occasion to honor and give praise publicly to God for our journey as women organized for mission.

As United Methodist Women, we continue to lift up prayers for peace and justice here in our country and all around the world. We are especially prayerful for the men and women and their families who have gone off to war from Louisiana. It is truly a blessing to be an American with the opportunity to publicly serve Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ without reprisal. And it is by choice that the UMW organization is one of our main venues for rendering service to others in the name of the Lord with particular emphasis upon women, children and youth.

When we convene our 32nd Annual Meeting on September 16-17, 2005 at First United Methodist Church in Monroe, Louisiana, we will celebrate and give praise for our rich heritage and legacy in mission and for the works and accomplishments of the past year of our 280 plus local units across the seven districts. Also, we will greet and express support for the new 2006-2007 conference team that will accept the awesome responsibility of leadership.

Ms. Sue C. Johnson of the Women's Division will be our special guest and keynote speaker for both the Friday night banquet and the Saturday morning service. Again this year, we're looking forward to all districts having a record number of women in attendance to worship and fellowship together and to extend to Sue a warm hospitable welcome to Louisiana.

Special thanks to Sandy, Monroe District president, the entire planning committee, and the local units of the district for their untiring work in preparation for this occasion. You are invited. Please come!

In the love of Christ,

Lueburda Jamison Myers
Conference President
2002-2005

Registration

Registration will begin at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2005. Signs will be posted to direct you to registration tables. Each district will have a table and someone from your district (president and treasurer) will be there to assist you.

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING FACTS AND FOCUS

Retired Missionaries and Deaconesses residing within the conference may attend the Annual Meeting at the conference expense (which includes housing and travel), but they must send in a registration form and pay registration and banquet fees.

The registration form for the Annual Meeting is included in this newsletter. Please complete and return to Jane Eubanks with the proper remittance by the designated date on top of the registration form. Each person who registers (attends) including all officers must pay the $8.00 registration fee. This fee includes the insurance that will cover you from the time you leave home, throughout the meeting, and until you return home. Please be sure to indicate if you need child care service for this event. (Child care services will NOT be available during the banquet).

Rooms must be reserved with the Holiday Inn by September 1st in order to be assured the discount rate. Be sure to mention that you are with United Methodist Women.

Sandwiches will be available in the Fellowship Hall on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and on Saturday after the Communion Service. A Continental Breakfast will be served at the church in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.

Friday evening the banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn at 6:30 p.m. You must pre-register for this meal. The cost is $15.00 per person. Please check the appropriate space on the registration form and include that amount with our registration fee. There will be NO refunds.

The planned menu is:

Grilled Chicken
Baked Potato
Green Beans
Tossed Green Salad
Dinner Rolls
Assorted Desert
Iced Tea Coffee

A Pre-Executive Committee meeting will be held Thursday, September 15, 2005 at Hope UMC, 700 South Sixth St. Monroe at 4:00 p.m. There will be directions to the meeting at the hotel desk. The Post-Executive Committee meeting and lunch will be held in the Youth Area immediately following the Communion Service on Saturday. All newly elected and returning officers must attend.

HOUSING INFORMATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Headquarter Hotel -
Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites
1051 U.S. Highway 165 Bypass
Monroe, LA 71203

Phone: 318-387-5100 Fax: 318-387-0334
1-800-942-4868

Room Rates:

Single/1 King Size Bed	$63.00
Double/2 Double Beds	$63.00
Atrium Suites	$89.00

All room reservations must be made by **September 1, 2005**. Tell the reservation clerk that you are with the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women.
A hospitality room will be available at the hotel for those persons who are not registered at the hotel.

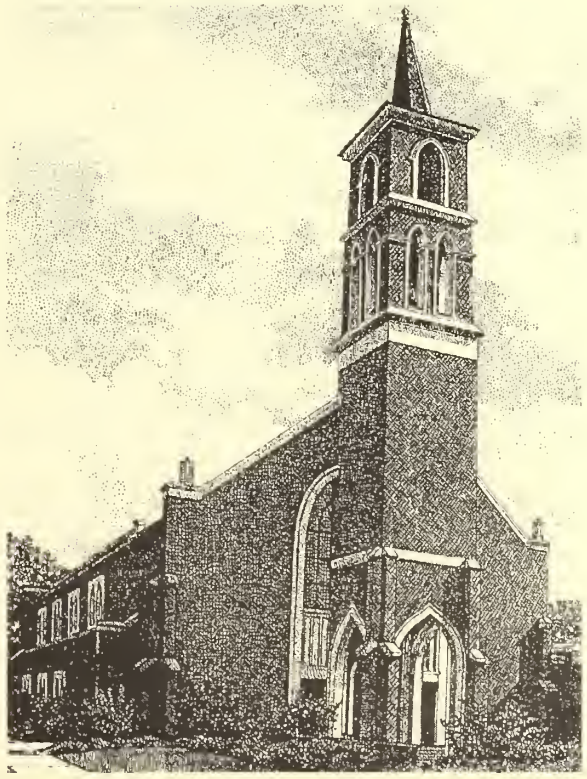
DIRECTIONS:

To The Holiday Inn: From I-20 East or West:
Take the Bastrop exit 118A, if you're coming from the west or 118B, if you're coming from the east. You will be going north on Highway 165. You'll see the Holiday Inn on your right. Just after you pass the Hotel, you can turn right on the service road to get into the hotel.

To The Holiday Inn: From Highway 165 North:
After you cross Highway 80, you'll turn left at the 2nd traffic light (Louberta St). Immediately turn right on the service road and it will take you to the hotel.

To The Holiday Inn: From Highway 165 South:
After you pass I-20, which goes East-West, you'll see the Holiday Inn on your right. Just after you pass it, you can turn right on the service road to get into the hotel.

To First UMC from the Holiday Inn:
After you leave the Hotel, you'll turn right onto Highway 165. After you cross Highway 80, start looking for McDonald's. There's a traffic light at that intersection and you'll turn left onto Loop Road. Go 2 blocks and you will see the church.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MONROE, LA

PROGRAM
"135 Years: We've Come This Far By Faith
Scripture—1st Thessalonians 1:3
Song Leader, Annette Fortuna
Pianist, Jackie Pennington

FRIDAY AFTERNOON **1:00 P.M.**

Musical Prelude	
Processional of Conference Officers	
Invocation	Beverly Cox
Convening of the 32nd Annual Meeting	Lueburda Myers
Affirming our Purpose	
Opening Hymn	
Welcome and	
Presentation of Program	Sandy DeCelle and Jo Hale
Recognition of Visitors	Lueburda Myers
Lighting of Mission Candle	Georgie Lee Roberson and Nettie Mae Semmes
Opening Meditation	Rev. Jo Ann Sims
Song	*Sent Forth By God's Blessing*
Announcements	

******BREAK******

UMW Sings	
BUSINESS SESSION	
Appointed to Examine Journal	
Mission Team Reports	Conference Officers
Committee on Nominations	Evelyn Martin
Election of Officers	
President's Report	Lueburda Myers
Greeting from Jurisdiction	
Church Women United	
Project Leaders Reports	
Service for Retiring Officers	Norma Winegeart
Closing Hymn	*Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

Close of the Afternoon Session—4:30 p.m.
Reconvene 6:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn and Suites for the Banquet

FRIDAY EVENING **6:30 P.M.**
BANQUET PROGRAM

Music	
Welcome	
Words of Grace	
Dinner	
Special Entertainment	
Introduction of Speaker	Edna Hickman
Evening Message	Sue C. Johnson
Announcements & Benediction	

SATURDAY MORNING **8:30 A.M.**

UMW Sings	
Devotional	
Introduction of Speaker	
Message	Sue C. Johnson
Pledge Service	Jane Eubanks Carolyn Colvin
Offertory Prayer	
Doxology	
Registration Report	Joyce Thibodeaux
Special Mission Recognition	Lueburda Myers
Installation of Officers	Kathleen Conrad
Invitation to the 2006 Annual Meeting	
Announcements	
Adjournment of Annual Meeting	

******BREAK******

Special Music	Silent Sounds Tallulah UMC, Johnny Wilkins, Director
Communion Meditation	Bishop William Hutchinson
Holy Communion	Bishop William Hutchinson, Communion Celebrant
Closing Hymn	
Postlude	

2004 MISSION RIBBON

The mission ribbons will be available at the Annual Meeting Registration area. You may write or call Jane Eubanks, Conference Treasurer, to find out the availability of the ribbons you need. At that time, the ribbons will be set aside for you and held until Annual Meeting, or until you send your payment. Write to 44040 Parker Blvd., Hammond, LA 70403, or call 985-419-8741. All proceeds will go toward our Conference Pledge to Mission. This year's design is the same as our program logo. Also, there will be a limited number of mission ribbons from past years available.

At the 2005 School of Christian Mission in July, the United Methodist Women collected 313 health kits and $377.00 in donations for UMCOR/Sager Brown mission project.

The next mission project is for all UMW members to bring School Supplies to the Annual Meeting in September. These supplies will be given to Dulac Community Center, MacDonell Methodist Children's Services, St. Mark's Community Center and UMCOR/Sager Brown. All District Presidents have received a list of supplies needed for each center. Check with your District President to see what needs to be purchase. Remember we are helping the children.

Introducing the 2004 Annual Meeting Program Participants

Sue C. Johnson
Guest Speaker

Sue C. Johnson is the Executive Secretary for Mission Training with Women's Division, for which she has been a staff member for 16 years. Before becoming a part of the Women's Division Executive Staff, Sue C. was a UMW volunteer as Information Interpreter for the United Nations. Professionally, Sue C. spent most of her time in public education. She taught in high school and chaired the social science department. Summers, she taught college literature from the Old Testament to the Western Renaissance. She also did consulting for a public education TV station. Sue C. has worked at schools of Christian mission, annual meetings, mission team meetings, toured national mission sites, packed boxes at the UMCOR mission depot, and has done training with former LA mission teams.

Bishop William W. Hutchinson
LA Conference

Bishop William W. Hutchinson has been the presiding Bishop of the LA Conference since 2000. He came to us from the New Mexico Conference Foundation. Bishop Hutchinson received his B.A. Degree from the University of Oklahoma, a Master of Divinity from Duke University, and Honorary Doctors of Divinity from McMurray University and Centenary College. He is currently Vice President of the General Board of Church and Society as well as the Council of Bishops representative to RAAP (Religious Alliance Against Pornography). He and his wife, Kay, have two sons and one granddaughter. Bishop Hutchinson will be the Communion Celebrant.

Dr. Robert L. Burgess
Monroe District
Superintendent

Dr. Robert L. "Bob" Burgess is a native of Arkansas. He is a graduate of NLU and Asbury Theological Seminary. In 1999 Centenary College honored him with a Doctor of Divinity Degree. He has served as pastor of several churches throughout the Louisiana Conference, Broadmoor UMC in Baton Rouge being his most recent. Dr. Burgess has also served the conference on various boards and committees; and is presently a member of the Board of the LA Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, and the Episcopacy Committee of the South Central Jurisdiction. Bob and his wife, Peggy have two daughters and four grandchildren. Dr. Burgess will bring greeting from the Monroe District.

Rev. R. Larry Stafford
Host Pastor

Rev. R. Larry Stafford is a native of Franklinton. He received his B.S. Degree from LSU and his Master of Divinity from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Rev. Stafford is a member of the Conference Center Board of Trustees, and the Conference Council on Finance and Administration. He is chairman of the District Board of Trustees, and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the LA United Methodist Foundation. He was a delegate to the 1992, 2000, and 2004 Jurisdictional Conferences. He and his wife, Rita have two children and two grandsons. Rev. Stafford will bring greetings on behalf of the First UMW, Monroe.

Rev. Jo Ann Sims

Rev. Jo Ann Sims was appointed in June 2001 and served as pastor for Bartholomew and Beekman United Methodist Churches before her recent appointment as an associate pastor for First UMC, Monroe. She attends the Mississippi Course of Study at Millsap's College in Jackson, Mississippi. Rev. Sims is married to Brett, and she has a son, David Noble, a step-son, Devon Sims, and a granddaughter, Rielle Sims (20 months). Rev. Sims will bring the opening meditation on Friday.

Kathleen Conrad

Kathleen Conrad was elected to serve as a Women's Division Director of the General Board of Global Ministries for 2004-2008. Kathleen is from the Acadiana District and has served as our Conference UMW Vice President, 2004 Dean of the Conference School of Christian Mission , and Chairperson of the West Gulf Regional School of Mission Nominating Committee. She is married to the Rev. Clifton Conrad and they have two children. Kathleen will install the 2006 UMW Conference Officers.

Norma Winegeart

Norma Winegeart lived in Monroe as a child and joined First UMC, Monroe in 1931 when she was 8 years old. She was president of the LA Conference UMW from 1989-1993. The first Annual Meeting that she presided over was held at First UMC, Monroe on September 14—15, 1990. Her husband, Rev. Jack Winegeart, retired in 1993 and they returned to their "home" church, First UMC, Shreveport. Rev. Jack died in 1995. Norma is still an active member of the local and district UMW. She will be conducting the Recognition of Retiring Officers' Ceremony.

Annual Meeting Music Team

Rev. Connie Breaux

Rev. Connie Breaux is an ordained deacon. She earned her B.A. and M.A. Degrees in music education from Southern University and then attended Perkins School of Theology. She serves at Trinity UMC in Ruston. She is qualified for campus ministry. She currently serves as Chaplain under the supervision of Grambling State University, Office of Student Affairs. Rev. Breaux is the President of the LA Conference of Black Methodist for Church Renewal. She will be our song leader for the meeting.

Hunt Neely

Hunt Neely was born in Warren, AR and grew up in Farmerville, LA. He considers himself to be truly blessed to have two jobs that he loves. He has been the organist at First UMC, Monroe for nearly 20 years; and he is Controller and Chief Financial Officer for The Forsythe Group, Inc., managing over 40 million dollars in assets. He is married to the former Cynthia Day, an artist whose work is in private and public displays across the US. They have two daughters, Morgan and Lindsay. Hunt will be our organist/pianist for the meeting.

M I S S I O N C A N D L E

2005 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	**$ .58**
1 MINUTE	**$ 34.68**
5 MINUTES	**$ 173.39**
1 HOUR	**$2,080.66**

The lighting of the MISSION CANDLE will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 16-17, 2005 at 1st UMC, Monroe, LA. The Candle was first burned at the 1979 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the Tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present and future as women organized for mission. Units and individuals will want to be a part of this meaningful expression of our united commitment to a worldwide program of mission outreach.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY or IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. This goal can be realized if every unit gives 1 minute or more for the MISSION CANDLE. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift requirement. All monies are incorporated into each District's PLEDGE TO MISSION.

Please use the form below to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the form with your check to your District Treasurer by September first.

PLEASE TYPE PRINT—(If more space is needed, attach additional sheets. DO NOT write on back)

Individual/Unit submitting form:_____

Church:_____ District:_____

City:_____ Phone: ( )_____

Given by: Name of Individual/Unit In HONOR of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

Given by: Name of Individual/Unit In MEMORY of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____

Mission Offering: On Saturday morning of Annual Meeting an offering will be taken for Undesignated Giving. Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the "Mission Candle" and "One Second of Your Time" as you honor loved ones. These gifts help increase our Gift to Mission and keep the Mission Candle burning as long as possible during the Annual Meeting.

Special Offering for District and Conference Retiring Officers

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of year to contribute to a Special Offering in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in United Methodist Women. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "Thank You" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will apply to your District's Pledge To Mission.

Your contributions in the past have been very generous. The retiring officers appreciate this acknowledgement of their service in mission. We know you will want to continue this fine tradition and participate in honoring those women who are retiring this year.

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their annual meetings in October and November.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son... John 3:16

WORLD THANK OFFERING

What a wonderful gift God gave us, and what a better way to show our thanks than through our gifts to the World Thank Offering during October. Inserted in this newsletter you will find your October calendar and 31-Derful Ways To Say Thanks. Isn't it fun to use it each day to collect the money we will use for this offering? Drop the coins into a small box or jar each day and watch it accumulate. Then bring it to your Unit Meeting when you have the World Thank Offering Service.

LA Conference UMW SLATE OF NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED
Nominated for a two year term: Jan. 2006- Dec. 2007

PRESIDENT:
Harriette Tucker Elrod (Monroe)
111 DeSota St.
Tallulah, LA 71282-4550
318-574-0158

SECRETARY:
Jan Rose (Monroe)
181 McBride St.
Ruston, LA 71270
318-255-3437

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR:
Tillie Shows (New Orleans)
210 Kimberly Sr.
Mandeville, LA 70448
985-626-3973

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH COORDINATOR:
Maribel Mojica Calvo (New Orleans)
62200 Lions Rd.
Amite, LA 70422
985-748-7687

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR & EDITOR:
Mary Quinones (New Orleans)
4904 Bissonet St.
Metairie, LA 70003
504-885-5550

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION, MEMBERS:
CLASS OF 2009

Juanita Lagard
411 Kidd St. #5
Morgan City, LA 70380
985-384-5773

Lueburda Myers
P.O. Box 36797
Shreveport, LA 71133
318-221-7657

Submitted by:
Evelyn B. Martin
Nominations Committee Chairperson

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women Goals to be adopted for the Year 2006

In keeping with the Purpose of United Methodist Women, in 2006 our goals will be:

I. To be **A Community of Women**, accomplishing a 2% increase in membership by:
- A. Seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist.
- B. Revitalizing units that have limited resources.
- C. Creating one Prison Ministry in each District.
- D. Creating teen, college/university age and newly retired women's circles in each District.

II. To encourage children, youth and women **to Know God** by:
- A. Promoting conference, district, and local unit mission studies a outlined by the Women's Division with emphasis on improving public education in our community; and attending local, district and conference Schools of Christian Mission, Annual Meetings and Spiritual Retreats.
- B. Incorporating the use of the Prayer Calendar in daily devotions.
- C. Implementing a Children's Reading Program in each of the seven districts.

III. To continue to **Develop A Creative Supportive Fellowship** by:
- A. Observing UMW Sunday (membership emphasis Sunday) on January 22, 2006, or an alternate date, in every unit throughout the conference.
- B. Collecting items as outlined in the current Material Resources for Mission Catalog, and presenting these items at the UMW Annual Meeting to Women's Division Projects in Louisiana—Dulac Cooperative Ministry, MacDonell United Methodist Children's Services, St. Mark's Community Center, Sager-Brown/UMCOR, and Church Women United.
- C. Encouraging mini-mission volunteer work at Sagar Brown/UMCOR, where feasible, and education field trips to Women's Division Projects in Louisiana.

IV. To **Expand Concepts of Mission** by:
- A. Encouraging District and Local Units to use the 2006 Program Book, Response Magazine, and the Prayer Calendar in program planning.
- B. Promoting and assisting each Local and District Unit in becoming a Mission Today Unit.
- C. Completing the requirements for membership in the Charter Club for Racial Justice.
- D. Increasing the number of participants in the Reading Program by 2%.
- E. Participating and supporting the programming of Church Women United, and the World Federation of Methodist Women.
- F. Increasing the number of 5 Star Giving Units by 10%.
- G. Promoting and encouraging attendance at the 2006 Assembly.

V. To **Participate in the Global Ministries of the Church** by:
- A. Paying our pledge to mission in full.
- B. Supporting and promoting our Mission Candle and Mission Ribbons.

ACTION ALERT

PATRIOT Act Update, 2005

October 26, 2004 marked the third anniversary of the USA PATRIOT Act. Since its passage in Congress shortly after the attacks on September 11, 2001, the PATRIOT Act has been a source of controversy. Conservatives and liberals have come together to critique its most aggressive provisions, which threaten civil liberties and upset the government's system of checks and balances.

Unless Congress votes to reauthorize them, many of the PATRIOT Act's invasive provisions are set to expire, or sunset, in December 2005. These include sections expanding government authority to conduct wiretaps and secret searches, intercept communication, and obtain access to consumer records.[i] In April 2005, the U.S. Congress began oversight hearings on the PATRIOT Act.

There are currently several bills in the House of Representatives and the Senate aimed at reforming the PATRIOT Act to provide better protections for civil liberties.[ii] The Security and Freedom Enhancement (SAFE) Act (S.737 in the Senate and H.R. 1526 in the House) places greater restrictions on wiretaps, increases privacy protections for library users, and redefines "domestic terrorism" to safeguard the rights of protesters and others engaged in civil disobedience.[iii] In the House, the Freedom to Read Protection Act (H.R. 1157) proposes changes that would protect the privacy of library and bookstore patrons.[iv] The Library, Bookseller, and Personal Records Privacy Act (S. 317) serves as the Senate's companion bill to the Freedom to Read Act. The Library, Bookseller, and Personal Records Privacy Act sets reasonable limits on the federal government's access to library, bookseller, medical and other personal information.[v]

The national grassroots movement to protect civil liberties continues to grow. Seven states and 378 counties and cities have passed resolutions to protect the civil liberties of their combined 61,664,449 residents. Civil liberties safety zones exist in Jerome, Arizona, Sarasota, Florida, Boise, Idaho, and the entire state of Alaska.[vi]

Make a pledge to write an op-ed or letter to the editor about the PATRIOT ACT!!
Mail your pledge to the address below.
See the reverse side for further directions and action steps.

Action Pledge

I, *(print name)* _____, commit to write an op-ed or letter to the editor on the PATRIOT ACT to *(name of newspaper or magazine)* _____.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Conference: _____

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK
Women's Division – General Board of Global Ministries
100 Maryland Avenue, NE Suite 530 – Washington, DC 20002
Tel. (202) 488-5660 * Fax (202) 488-5681

God is Good Anyway

Barbara Johnson offers us some good advice in her devotional, entitled *God is Good Anyway*, taken from the book, Overjoyed! She says,

"We can't change these seven realities:

Things are always changing.
It rains on the just and the unjust.
We are aging by the minute.
The rules aren't fair.
You can't please all people all the time.
You can't heal another person's wounds.
God is good anyway!"

We are often reluctant to say, "God is good." We think our cup has to be full before we can share with somebody else. That's a big lie!

You don't have to be wealthy to start giving to the poor. You don't have to be perfectly organized to start giving of your time. You don't have to have a beautiful home to invite other people in. You don't have to be especially gifted to start making a difference in this world.

If you don't have it all together, join the club. You want to minister or start on the road to success? Use what you have. Begin with the things in your hands. As you give out of your emptiness or loneliness, the gifts flow back your way. It's a mystery, but when Jesus said, "Streams of living water will flow from within" (John 7:38), he was talking about a constant source of energy, love, and enthusiasm. So don't wait another minute to give from what your have; begin today. Do it anyway.

You have a beautiful heart that is loved by the Lord Jesus. That is all you need. So don't wait until your troubles are behind you. The only person whose troubles are behind him is the school bus driver! Go to the phone and call a friend. Remind her that God is good. And if she doesn't agree right now, tell her that God is good anyway.

Pray: "Lord, keep me aware that this moment is the most precious moment of my life. Help me to use it to decide to reach out in your name. Amen."

Beverly Cox,
Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Words from your Treasurer

Based on the 2004 Final Income Report from Women's Division, our amount of undesignated giving was about $1,000.00 more than 2003 figures (Good News). The not so good news is that we did not meet our conference pledge in 2004. The undesignated giving in the first quarter is also down from 2004. Please keep in mind that the needs in the mission field have not changed, so let's start giving!

Just a reminder that the third quarter report will need to be on time because this will be the last report for earning your Five Star Certificate. It takes 75% of local units in each district to become a Five Star District. What a great challenge!

Finally, in preparation for the Annual Meeting Candle Book, the Mission Candle Report will need to be in to me by September 1, 2005. Your giving goes through your District Treasurer, so don't wait.

Remember women and children all over the globe are counting on us and we cannot fail them!

Jane Eubanks,
Conference Treasurer

READ READ READ

Greetings to all sisters in Christ,

Hopefully all of you have completed at least one of the levels of the Reading Program or have at least participated in some way. Remember our goal was to include our CHILDREN and YOUTH as a part of the READING PROGRAM. We want to recognize them as participants, so please let us know of any participation. We will seek to nurture our young ones as readers, helping to expand their knowledge and their perspectives. I look forward to presenting each District with their certificates as we gather in Monroe for our Annual Meeting. Many thanks to all who attended the SCM and who were helpful in getting our resources to Monroe for Annual Meeting.

The Resource Room will be open during registration for Annual Meeting and will close by 12:30 PM on Friday to prepare for the opening session which begins at 1:00 PM. On Saturday, we will open between the sessions of the meeting. We will have information on registration for the 2006 Assembly as well as books for the 2006 Reading Program. You may purchase books and other resources using ***cash or checks Only.*** We will not be taking credit card purchases. You will have the option of ordering resources (minimum of two) through the special orders procedure, and receiving the materials as a postage free delivery to your home. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding of these processes.

I would like to ask your continued prayers for Mrs. Shirley Jacocks on the loss of her husband, Reverend William (Ken) Jacocks. Reverend Jacocks was funeralized on Thursday, June 16, 2005. He supported the work of UMW and was very active in helping in many ways with the Resource Room and participated in the Reading Program, working along with Shirley as our past Conference SPR. He will truly be missed.

Lana Lathan,
Conference Secretary of Program Resources

WE NEED YOU!

The Committee on Nominations is seeking potential leaders to serve as officers far the United Methodist Women's organization.

If you are interested in serving, please complete the Talent Bank Sheet on page 13 and mail to Evelyn B. Martin, Chairperson, 6211 Providence Place, New Orleans, LA 70128.

Response-Ability

District Elected Leadership Training

Theme: ***Celebrate Response-Ability***
When: October 8, 2005
Where: LA Conference Center
Time: Registration 9:00—9:30 a.m. (Main Lobby)
Opening Worship 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Officers' Training 10:00—12 noon
Lunch and Dismissal 12:00—1:00 p.m.

For **All** Retuning and Newly Elected District and Conference Officers

Mary Ann Monk, Chairperson
Beverly Cox, Co-Chairperson

Complete the form below if you are a returning or newly elected district officer even if you will not be able to attend so that materials can be reserved for you. Return to:
DELT
Attn: Mary Ann Monk
456 Archwood St.
Lake Charles, LA 70605
RESERVE YOU PLACE BY SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

DELT REGISTRATION FORM

Name_____

Address_____

_____
City Zip

Phone_(_____)_____

Office Title_____

( ) New ( ) Returning

District_____

( ) I will attend
( ) Make lunch reservation for me

( ) I will be unable to attend

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Rise! Shine! Glorify God!

Matthew 5:14-16. Isaiah 58:6-12, Psalm 106:1-5

The 2006 Assembly of United Methodist Women will take place in Anaheim, California at the Anaheim Convention Center, 800 West Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California 92802. Singing starts at 7:30 pm and the Opening Plenary begins at 8 pm on Thursday, May 4, 2006. The Assembly will end at approximately noon on Sunday, May 7, 2006.

2006 ASSEMBLY OFFERING

Because We Believe...Rise and Shine For Justice

The 2006 Assembly offering will fund organizations and projects that address issues of nutrition, transportation, and safe homes through education, advocacy and direct services on behalf of women, children and youth.

Because we believe that all of God's children, especially the disempowered, must be included at the table, we invite women, children and youth to "rise and shine for justice".

The Assembly offering is an opportunity for designated giving by United Methodist Women. Members can contribute to their local unit treasurers who send the money to the conference treasurers, through the usual remittance process. Each conference treasurer will bring a check to the Assembly to present during the Thursday, May 4th evening plenary. Individual participants may contribute to the offering during the Sunday, May 7th morning plenary. Funds designated as Assembly Offering may be contributed throughout the year and sent, via the treasurers, to Women's Division. Criteria for the distribution of funds will be determined by Women's Division.

HOW TO REGISTER

This packet of materials contains four Assembly Registration Forms and one Hotel Form. These forms allow up to four people to register using ONE packet. Photocopy any additional forms needed or request copies from the Assembly Business Office, 7820 Reading Road, Caller 1800, Cincinnati OH 45222-1800. Please follow the instructions on the back of the enclosed envelope to ensure proper registration. You may also register on-line at www.umwassembly.org.

Send one Registration Form and the $175 registration fee for each person registering. Make check(s) or money order(s) payable to: Assembly Business Office. You may also charge your registration fee to VISA or MASTERCARD by filling in the credit card information on the Registration Form. Please remember the fee is due with your registration, and if you are paying with a credit card, the Assembly Office will charge your credit card the day it processes your registration.

If registering for a hotel, fill out *one* Hotel Form for all people staying in *one* room. The Hotel Form must be accompanied by an Assembly Registration Form for each person listed on the Hotel Form. Hotel requests will be held until all people listed on the Hotel Form have registered for the Assembly. Return all completed forms and fees together in the provided envelope to help speed registration.

Register by the deadlines – *March 20, 2006 or before, if seating capacity is met. December 1, 2005 for Conference Hotel Room Blocks.* If cancellation becomes necessary after the March 20th deadline, registrants may transfer their registration to someone else. Notify the Assembly Business Office** and provide the name of the replacement person to accomplish this transfer. Your conference or district president my also be able to help in finding a person to purchase your Assembly seat. A cancellation charge of $50 will be deducted from the $175 fee and only $125 will be refunded.

Once your registration is processed, you will receive a gold *acknowledgment letter* showing your hotel assignment and other important information. *Keep this letter in a safe place.* Present it upon registration, in Anaheim, on the date and location shown to receive your Assembly packet, badge and lunch tickets.

POTENTIAL LEADERS INFORMATION FORM

(To be completed by potential leader)

TALENT BANK

Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary) Date

_____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone: Home _____ Work _____ Email _____

Local Church _____ District _____

Age: 20's ____ 30's ____ 40's ____ 50's ____ 60's ____ 70's ____ 80's+ _____

Languages Spoken _____ Racial/Ethnic Group _____

Employed : Yes ____ No____ FULL-TIME _____PART-TIME _____

Professional skills, j ob experience _____

_____

Office(s) held in United Methodist Women

	Office(s)	Date of Service
Local		
District		
Conference		
Jurisdiction		

Additional experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Methodist Women) or in the community_____

_____

_____

_____

Areas of Special Interest (I) and/or Concern (C)

___ secretarial
___ community
___ computer
___ accounting/bookkeeping
___ organizations of details
___ nominations
___ program planning
___ administration
___ recruiting members
___ social issues
___ creativity
___ recording minutes
___ public policy
___ public relations
___ community building
___ inclusiveness/pluralism
____ publicity
____ workshops
____ newsletters
____ retreats
____ music
____ youth
____ children
____ other

Other talents or skills specify:_____

Which office(s) on the Conference United Methodist Women's Team would you most like to hold given the opportunity to serve?

____ President
____ Vice President
____ Secretary
____ Treasurer
____ Chair of Nominations
____ Educations & Interpretation
____ Membership Nurture & Outreach
____ Social Action
____ Spiritual Growth
____ Program Resources
____ Communications

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION AND WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE FOR YOUR OFFICE(S) OF CHOICE?

_____
_____
_____
_____

WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO USE YOUR GIFTS AND TALENTS TO UPHOLD AND STRENGTHEN UNITED METHODIST WOMEN THROUGH THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION?

_____

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO BE AWAY FROM YOUR HOME OR EMPLOYMENT FOR:

FULL DAY _____ WEEKEND _____ EXTENDED TIME _____
YES OR NO YES OR NO YES OR NO

_____ **I AM SORRY BUT I AM UNABLE TO ACCEPT AN OFFICE THIS YEAR. PLEASE KEEP MY NAME ON FILE AND CONTACT ME IN _____ (YEAR)**

Please give any other information you feel is pertinent: _____
_____
_____
_____

2005
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS

Acadiana	Nov. 5	1st UMC, Lafayette
Alexandria	Nov. 5	Trinity UMC, Alex.
Baton Rouge	Nov. 5	Blackwater UMC, Baton Rouge
Lake Charles	Oct. 22	Moss Bluff UMC,
Monroe	Oct. 22	Trinity UMC, Ruston
New Orleans	Oct. 29	Hartzell-Mt. Zion, Slidell
Shreveport	Oct. 14	First UMC, Bossier City

CONFERENCE UPCOMING EVENTS

2005

October	8	DELT LA Conference Center

2006

January	22	UMW Sunday
July	20-23	School of Christian Mission LA Conference Center

Look in your closets and filing cabinets. Do you have letters, pictures, news articles or programs concerning events of UMW? These items need to be in our archives. Bring them to Annual Meeting in September and give them to your conference historian at the Alexandria District registration table.

Janet Ward,
Conference Historian

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

September 16-17, 2005
First United Methodist Church
Monroe, LA

Send Registration to: Jane N. Eubanks
44040 Parker Blvd.
Hammond, LA 70403
(985) 419-8741
teachpreach@i-55.com

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
SEPTEMBER 5, 2005

Make Check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW
Pre-Registration Fee $ 8.00
Onsite Registration Fee $10.00
Banquet Fee $15.00

Name _____

Address _____

_____
City Zip Code

Phone __(_____)_____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- ☐ Conference Office—Specify _____
- ☐ Conference Executive Committee _____
- ☐ District Office—Specify _____
- ☐ Former conference President or Guild Secretary
- ☐ Retired Missionary or Deaconess
- ☐ Local Unit Member ☐ Voting Delegate
- ☐ Guest

MEALS

☐ Friday Lunch ☐ Saturday Breakfast ☐ Saturday Lunch
☐ Banquet (non-refundable) Include with registration

Church _____
City _____ District _____
Number in Unit _____
Where will you be staying during meeting? _____
Will child care service be needed? _____
Age of child/children (none older than 10 years) _____

NOTE: Registration fee includes: Cost of insurance from time of departure until return home, registration packet, and a portion of meeting expenses.

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From the Editor:
To truly sum up my journey as Conference Communications Coordinator and Editor, I take from the scripture: "Seek God first in all that you do, and he will direct your path." My eight-year journey as a UMW Conference Officer has be real, real Faith in Action. From this experience, I have grown far beyond my wildest dreams and expectations and for that I give my thanks to God, and to the many United Methodist Women and Christian friends who cheered me on.

Farewell from missbjc

Baton Rouge District/
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Brenda Canty, Editor
7271 Hanks Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70812

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Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXX, No. 1 January 2006

Rise! Shine! Glorify God! Assembly 2006

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California-Pacific Leadership Training Event Participants
Left Front: Lita Nelson, Naty T. Lagaso, Ran Yung Tae;
Left Back: Bertha Carter, Debbie Haustedt, Kimberly Dugan, Peg Jones, Hena Fifita

Louisiana United Methodist Women have just cause to lead bolt shouts of glory and hallelujah in songs of praise. God's people have heard our cries of despair after hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Victims have given witness and testimony that thrills our souls with Christian gratitude. Words from the Bible direct us to glorify, honor, praise and worship God from whom all blessings flow. This we joyfully look forward to doing as we celebrate our God as Assembly 2006.

Our Conference Mission Team experienced a powerful display of love and caring by our sisters in training at St. Louis in November, 2005. Jan Love, Deputy General Secretary from Women's Division, announced that the collection taken during worship was designated for UMW units in the hurricane areas.

God's love was again expressed to us from the California-Pacific Conference UMW President and her new team members. Debbie Haustedt handed me a folder of personal letters from her team to their matching team member in our conference. They expressed sorrow for our suffering and asked for suggestions for specific ways to help. Many described missions targeted for Louisiana and help already sent. We were then issued a very special invitation by the California-Pacific Conference UMW to our Louisiana Conference UMW to Come, Rise, Shine and Glorify God at the 2006 Assembly.

May we all continue to serve others in the name of Christ Jesus, with particular emphasis on women, children and youth. As *The Book of Discipline* tells us: "... we believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others...."

In the love of Christ,
Harriette Tucker Elrod, LA Conf. Pres.

Harriette Elrod (LA),
Debbie Haustedt (CA)
New UMW Conference Presidents

A Special Invitation For Louisiana UMW

We extend our heartfelt concern and prayers to our sisters in Louisiana as you lead women in mission in the areas so devastated by Katrina and Rita. We trust that God will guide you and uphold your efforts to bring healing. May the women in your districts and units feel our love as they work through pain to recovery. Blessings upon your Mission Team as you participate in the global ministries of the church. We walk with you and look forward to seeing many of you at Assembly 2006 in our California-Pacific Conference. With love and prayers, Debbie Haustedt, President

New Members of the Conference Leadership Team

Harriette Tucker Elrod

President

Harriette is a member of the Monroe District and the First United Methodist Church in Tallulah where she teaches Adult Women's Sunday School, leads Bible study, and sings in the Chancel Choir. She serves as Lay Leader, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference, and leads the Tallulah UMW in a Devotional and Sing-A-Long Program for the local nursing home, The Olive Branch.

Harriette has served as Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Monroe District where she lead the 2005 District Spring Retreat hosted by her local unit. She has also served as Conference Vice President, Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator, and Dean for Conference School of Christian Missions in 1997.

She is the wife of Col. Robert F. Elrod, mother of a son and 2 daughters, grandmother of 7, and now a new great-grandmother.

Contact Harriette at 318-574-0158

Tillie Shows, Coordinator

Education & Interpretation

Tillie is a member of the New Orleans District and St. Timothy's UMC in Mandeville. She has served in the Women's Society of Christian Mission and United Methodist Women since 1955. She has held local unit offices at St. Timothy's and St. Matthew's in Metairie.

Tillie has served as North Shore District Vice President, Treasurer, and President where she was instrumental in organizing 8 new units including the first University unit in the Louisiana Conference.

She has worked in the public most of her adult life in several different capacities.

Tillie has been married to Frank Shows for 55 years, and is the mother of 4 daughters, grandmother of 13 and great grandmother of 7.

Contact Tillie at 985-626-3973
or email tillie01@bellsouth.net

Mary Quinones

Communications Coordinator & Editor

Mary is a member of the New Orleans District and St. Matthew's UMC in Metairie where she has served in UMW leadership since 1976, including Circle Leader, Secretary, and President. She has also chaired the local Tasting Luncheon and Annual Craft Show.

Mary served on the New Orleans District as Mission Coordinator for Supportive Community, Treasurer, and Member/Chair of the Nominating Committee. She has served as Conference Financial Interpreter and Treasurer, and chaired the Conference Spiritual Retreat in 1991.

She has worked as an Administrative Assistant/Office Manager in Houston and New Orleans, and is now with Jefferson Parish Community Action Programs. She has been married to Pas Quinones for 42 years, and is Aunt Mary to 27 nieces/nephews, and many great nieces/nephews.

Call Mary at 504-885-5550
or email pmquinones2@aol.com.
Your UMW NEWS items are welcome.
Deadlines are:
April 1st July 1st December 1st

Jan Rose—(Not Pictured) Conference Secretary—Jan is a member of the Monroe District and Wesley UMC, Ruston, where she is President of their UMW. She began serving as a UMW Circle Leader as a young mother at Trinity UMC, Ruston. She has served as Vice President and President of the Ruston District UMW and Secretary of Program Resources for the Monroe District. Jan has pastored a small church in the Ruston District and is currently Mission Chairperson for her church. Jan works at La. Tech for ARAMARK with human resources and payroll. She is widowed and divorced, and has a son and daughter, with 3 grandchildren.

Maribel Mojica-Calvo—(Not Pictured) Conference Coordinator for Membership, Nurture & Outreach –Maribel is a member of the New Orleans District, from Puerto Rico where she was a very active youth in the Methodist Church. She finished her BA Degree in Education and became a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries, UMC, working with women and children in Brazil, El Paso, TX, and LA Conference Hispanic Ministry since 1999. She has served as UMW Vice President for N.O. District.

Conference United Methodist Women Attend Leadership Training Event

New Conference Officers attended a Women's Division Leadership Training Event on November 18-20, 2005 in St. Louis, Missouri. This is a first step in the Design for Training Conference Elected Leaders and Committees on Nominations, to help increase their knowledge of specific responsibilities, increase awareness of the work of the Women's Division and increase understanding and the ability to interpret concepts of mission.

Representing Louisiana were: Harriette Elrod, President, from the Monroe District, Jan Rose, Secretary, from the Monroe District, and Tillie Shows, Coordinator for Education & Interpretation, Maribel Mojica-Calvo, Membership, Nurture & Outreach, and Mary Quinones, Communications Coordinator & Editor, all from the New Orleans District.

Also representing Louisiana were Nominating Committee Members from Louisiana: (not pictured on the previous page): Juanita Lagard from Acadiana District, and Lueburda Myers from Shreveport District, both serving in the Class of 2009.

Our own Kathleen Conrad, Women's Division Director, from the Acadiana District, served on the Women's Division Director Team for this event.

There were small group meetings for specific leadership training and plenary sessions: "We Receive to Give," "Anti-Racism: Because We Believe," "A Celebration Banquet," and "Mission Responding to God's Grace."

Women's Division President Kyung Za Yim lead the Opening Worship, and Deputy General Secretary, Dr. Janice Love lead the Closing Worship.

32nd Annual Meeting of United Methodist Women Convenes in Pineville

Nearly two hundred United Methodist Women came together on November 12, 2005 at the Pineville United Methodist Church to affirm and celebrate ***Mission Alive*** in Louisiana. We came with tears of joy, at just being able to be there to hug our many friends in the recent aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

After an invocation by Spiritual Growth Coordinator Beverly Cox, Presiding President Lueburda Myers convened the 32nd Annual Meeting and affirmed that mission has been and is prepared to be very "Alive in Louisiana."

Bishop William W. Hutchinson of the Louisiana Conference greeted us all with a wonderful song he wrote for "K-K-Katrina," and "R-R-R-Rita" (to the tune of "K-K-K-Katie"). This added much needed levity to our circumstances. The Bishop literally *brought down the house* with no wind or water.

Our theme song was "Sent Forth by God's Blessing." We sang and gave praise to God for calling each of us to blossom into something beautiful and alive for His mission. The mission candle burned for 4 hours, 27 minutes and 36 seconds. Each minute represented $34.68, the cost of one minute of mission support in the year 2005.

There were 12 members present from the New Orleans District. This attendance was applauded. Some of those who came had lost their homes in the storms, but they did not lose their spirit and they came because of our Purpose to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ.

The Annual Meeting was followed by a lunch provided by the ladies of Pineville, a meeting of the UMW Executive Committee, and then our District Elected Leaders Training Event. We had a very busy day, and we were blessed to be there.

Women's Division Update—Be Repairers of the Breach

Participate in a Sisterhood of Support. After discussion with the conference leaders in areas affected by hurricanes this year, the Women's Division knows many United Methodist Women will not be able to meet their pledge to mission or fully fund the budgets of the conferences involved. You can help sisters in those conferences meet their pledge and serve in their own areas by giving a special offering in their honor. Please promote this offering in your conference. The Women's Division will promote the offering through *Mission Update*, the quarterly newsletter, and on the web site: gbgm-umc.org/umw. The Division will receive contributions directly and through the normal channels of district and conference treasurers, dividing the special offering among hurricane-affected conferences according to need and in discussion with conference leaders. (Project #3012173)

2003 Calendar of Events

January	14	Program Committee Meeting
	22	UMW Sunday
	27-28	Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting Wesley Center
March	18	Concurrent Finance, Membership & Nominations Committee Meetings
May	4-7	UMW ASSEMBLY Anaheim, California
June	22-25	West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission, Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas
July	5	LA Conference UMW Executive Committee Meeting, Wesley Center
	5-8	UMW School of Christian Mission, Wesley Center
September	14	UMW Executive Committee Meeting (Monroe)
	15-16	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting (Monroe)
October	14	UMW District Elected Leaders Training (DELT) TBA
November	11	Program Committee Meeting, School of Christian Mission Committee Meeting, TBA
November	17-19	New Conference Officers Leadership Training Event St. Louis, Missouri

All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, and recipes are welcome.

This Newsletter is published three times a year.

Due Dates: January Newsletter—Due Date Dec. 1, 2006

May Newsletter—Due Date April 1, 2006

August Newsletter—Due Date July 1, 2006

Send your article(s) to Mary Quinones by:

Mail—4904 Bissonet Dr. Metairie, LA 70003

FAX—504-888-8878 Email—pmquinones2@aol.com

United Methodist Women Celebrate UMW Sunday

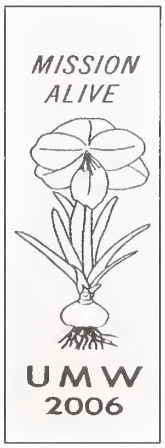
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will celebrate UMW Sunday, traditionally on Sunday, January 22, 2006. The 2006 theme, "Mission Alive" is an invitation to membership in an organization of women who are advocates for women, children and youth. God calls us to blossom into something beautiful and Alive for Mission.

The organization of UMW has been in existence for over 135 years. Today, there are one million plus members in over 25,000 local units in the United States.

Membership in UMW offers participation in and with a unique community of women focused on world-wide mission and encourages the development and use of leadership skills.

The conference membership goals for 2006 are to increase membership by seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist or revitalize units with limited resources, create more District Units to include at least one prison unit, and create teen, college/university age and newly retired women's circles in each District.

UMW Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate membership and invite others to join. The Conference UMW celebration is made special with the purchase and wearing of UMW Ribbons, purchased by contacting the District UMW Treasurer. The UMW Ribbons, embossed with logo and theme, are collectors items, and an invitation to membership. Interested women are welcome to join their local church unit, charge group, or to become a District member.



Mission Money Matters

2005 –What a Year! The Louisiana Conference UMW did not meet our Pledge to Mission, but we did pretty well after starting the year on a slow note and completing the year with a disaster for the New Orleans and Lake Charles Districts.

The Special Mission Recognition Pin orders really helped our pledge, and the Conference A&MD expenses came in under budget. Our circumstances can and will get better. So many women and children need our help and mission dollars. Many volunteers in mission are even staying at churches like LaPlace First UMC. When the New Orleans District had their Annual Meeting there on December 3, 2005, the altar area and sanctuary were lined with cots where Red Cross workers and others were sleeping nightly. Twenty-six ladies came for the meeting, and their offering was generous. All mission money matters.

Contact
Jane Eubanks
Treasurer
(985) 419-8741
teachpreach @ I-55.com

Pictured are (Not in Order): Fannie Reddix, June Sanchez, Barbara Brown, Carrie Roy, Doris Happel, Cindy Alberts, Beth Martin, Barbara Rouse, Carolyn Bowers, Karen Crouch, Brenda Montgomery, Margaret Milnor, Mary Quinones, Bobbie Botsay, Staphenae Carey, LaJanice Londro, Leona Berry, Virginia Stevens, Ann Loggins, Katherine Brown, Bev Cox, Mary Core, Rev. Yvonne Dayres, Susan Delle, Phyllis Zansler and Shantrese Davis

Social Action Coordinated from Texas

Many of you know that Jeanne Green lost her home and all of her UMW materials during Hurricane Katrina. She is in Texas, continuing her Social Action position. She asks District coordinators to make women aware of our responsibility as United Methodist Women to keep women focused on justice for all and human rights issues.

Many districts sent in forms from churches which completed the requirements for a certificate representing their membership in the Charter for Racial Justice. These forms were drowned. She needs the districts to send her a list of the churches and she will make duplicate certificates to send to them. Remind the churches to complete their 2006 activities by May or June so you can send Jeanne the forms in time for the new certificates to be sent.

We in Louisiana have issues of our own to consider: New Orleans and its rebuilding. Ask district members to flood Congress with letters and emails requesting that the levees of New Orleans be rebuilt to withstand hurricanes stronger than Category 3.

Jeanne is grateful for your prayers and concerns, and wants to hear from you.

Contact Jeanne B. Green at
4237 Wingrove Dr.,
Arlington, TX 76015
Cell 504-722-5775,
Jeanebg01@aol.com

Calendar Deadlines to Receive 2006 Certificates

Send information to Districts:

Membership, Nurture & Outreach:

UMW Sunday—Soon after event.

Woman in Mission—June 1st

Education & Interpretation:

Mission Study—June 1st

Mission Today Units—August 1st

Social Action:

Charter for Racial Justice—June 1st

School of Mission Registration:

Information in May Newsletter sent by Individuals to Conference Registrar.

Estelle Dameron Scholarship:

First-time Attendees Only (Form in May Newsletter) - June 1

District Program Resources:

Individual Members— Reading Program—August 1st

Mission Candle: Unit Treasurer to District Treasurer—September 1st

Conference Annual Meeting:

Individuals send in Registration Form in August Newsletter.

Contact Tillie Shows with questions:
985-626-3973 or
Email: Tillie01@bellsouth.net

Another New Beginning

Every twelve months, we find ourselves looking back, evaluating the past year, then looking forward, hoping for better things to come. Wouldn't it be nice if we began each year with a simple little formula, guaranteed to bring us happiness, success and fulfillment? The theme for United Methodist Women's Assembly 2006 sounded like just such a formula. There are only three steps: Rise, Shine, Glorify God. How simple!

I gave serious thought to each step, wondering how I could make this simple formula work for me. But the more I thought, the more questions kept popping up. I was getting bogged down, trying to figure it all out. How am I supposed to rise and where? Just how and where am I supposed to shine and for how long? Glorifying God was beginning to seem overwhelming, if not impossible. How, what and where were consuming me!

I should not have been surprised, since I was trying to make the simple formula work for me, instead of God. As the time for Assembly approaches and this new year unfolds, I will be asking for God's blessing and wisdom, knowing that as I seek Him first, the rising and shining and glorifying will follow—guaranteed!

Contact Beverly Cox at 985-966-4717
Or Email: BevTcox13@aol.com

LA Collars for Assembly

Cost is $10.00—Color: Green

More Info or To Order Call

Jane Eubanks at 985-419-8741

Mission Today Units

The purpose of a Mission Today Unit:

- To energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action.
- To increase contacts between units, mission personnel and mission projects so that United Methodist Women understand where the money goes.
- To encourage use of mission resources through United Methodist Women.
- To expand concepts of mission including social justice as mission.

As leaders, let us make ***Mission Today*** a top priority in our districts and local units.

Call Tillie Shows at 985-626-3973 or Email tillie01@bellsouth.net to get MISSION TODAY Forms for your unit.
See list of Report Deadlines on Page 5

2006 Mission Studies—Harvesting Peace

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." These are words of Jesus communicated to us through the gospel of John. How have we used the gift of peace that Jesus gave to us? At a time when most of the world is involved in war or conflict, it is imperative that we, as followers of Jesus, find every opportunity to share and promote peace.

The studies for this year will challenge us to look at what peace means for each of us as members of the global community. As we fulfill the teaching of Jesus, we will reap the harvest. James 3:18 reminds us that, "A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace."

"Shalom-Peace-Salaam: Peace in the Bible and in Our Time" - Judaism, Christianity and Islam each have a history of neighbors living at peace with neighbors and urges its followers to seek inner peace. Each tradition also has a history of violence which cries out for explanation.

"India and Pakistan" study is a fitting reminder of mission that is rooted in the local, but whose wings are stretched across the globe. The year 2006 is the 150th year of Methodist Mission, ministry and heritage in India and Pakistan. ***"Globalization: Its Impact in Our Lives"*** - What occurs in one part of the world, whether it concerns wealth, poverty, abundance, or scarcity, affects people in many other parts. "The United Methodist Church, the covenant community committed to God's justice, must work toward a just global economy."

2006 Reading Program—Expanding Your Window to the World

In 2005, Louisiana Conference UMW read 3,037 books, only a slight decrease from 3,222 in 2004. In spite of hurricane devastation, both the Lake Charles and New Orleans Districts increased their reading 3% and 6%, respectively.

For 2006, our conference goal is to increase participation in the Reading Program by at least 3%. We also challenge the districts to include children in the Reading Program, either by reading to them or by encouraging their reading to each other. A minimum of five (5) books is the requirement.

Video tapes for 2005-2006 Mission Studies (Children of the Bible; India & Pakistan and Public Education) have been placed in the La. Conference Office Library in Baton Rouge. There are two copies of the video ***"Mission Magazine"*** and one copy of the video ***"Listen to the Children."*** Call Shirleen at 225-346-1646 to borrow either of these.

Included in this issue is a list of 2005-2006 books that can be found in the local libraries in East Baton Rouge Parish. You may request that your parish library borrow these from East Baton Rouge or another parish library.

Contact Lana Lathan
Sec. of Program Resources
131 Ogden Dr.,
Baton Rouge LA 70806
or by phone @225-383-4380,
or email lathan131@bellsouth.net

Reading Program Books 2005-2006 — Local Library Access

(Following each book title is the Library Call Number)

Education For Mission

- The Good Women of China: Hidden Voices (305.409; X6.5g)

Nurturing For Community

- Barefoot Heart: Stories of A Migrant Child (BH325 or BH 811M695b)
- Beyond Green and Cornbread: Reflections on African American Christian Identity (811 M69 5b)
- Choosing Naia: A Family's Journey (362.3 294c)
- If I Live to be 100: Lessons From the Centenarians (305.26, E47i)
- When My Name was Keoko: A Novel of Korea in World War II (YA Park)
- Women on War: An International Anthology Of Writings from Antiquity to the Present (303.66, w872g2)

Social Action

- The Betrayal of Work: How Low-Wage Jobs Fail 30 Million Americans *Bonus Book (331.23, S562b)
- Nature's Way: Native Wisdom for Living in Balance with Earth (299.785, M145na)
- Race and Resistance: African Americans in the 21st Century (BH 305.896 R118b)
- This Organic Life: Confessions of A Suburban Homesteader (632.048, G982t)
- War is a Force That Gives Us Meaning (355.02, H453W)

Spiritual Growth

- Home is Always the Place You Just Left: A Memoir of Restless Longing and Persistent Grace (248.843, C323h)
- Joshua's Bible: A Novel (Fic Leanne)
- Thrive: 7 Strategies for Extraordinary Living (158.1, S425.5t)

LARGE PRINT BOOKS

- Answered Prayers (248.32, A626L)
- The Renewed Mind: Becoming The Person God Wants You to Be (248.484, C554r)
- Stories for a Faithful Heart: Over 100 Treasures to Touch Your Soul (248.4, S884g)

Children's Books

- The Goat Lady by Jane Bregoli (Ask Librarian for help—no call number listed.)
- My Name is Yoon by Helen Recorvits (XF Recorvit)
- Say Something by Peggy Moss (X Moss, Peggy)

Thank you for being the seekers of knowledge about all of our sisters and brothers in this world that God has given us. Continue to Read and Learn.

Greetings from the South Central Jurisdiction

Pat Cobb, President of the Core Planning Group (CPG), South Central Jurisdiction of United Methodist Women, attended our Louisiana Conference Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting on January 27-28, 2006.

Pat knows that many from the Louisiana Conference are planning to attend Assembly at Anaheim in May, 2006, and she asked that we mark our calendars for the Jurisdiction's Quadrennial Meeting to be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 28-30, 2008. The Core Planning Group is working diligently to plan an exciting and informative event.

The women at Jesus' resurrection were the first to tell the story, and we today want to tell the story. We are "Called by Name as Resurrection Women." You will hear more about this personal and corporate theme as time for the Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting nears.

We know you will want to keep Pat and her family in your prayers as she works with renewed spirit from their temporary home in Magee, MS, where they evacuated from Hurricane Katrina. While they lost their entire home in Lakeview, New Orleans, one book fell from a devastated shelf and the cover title caught the eye in remains being photographed. The message was clear—"You Can Get Bitter or Better." (Book by James W. Moore)

Pat and her family are seeking to relocate in Louisiana while they continue to "get better."

Charter 2006: Looking Anew at the Charter for Racial Justice

Commemorating 25 Years since the adoption of the Charter by the whole church… Bringing the Charter into the present

Calendar of Suggested Activities

- **January:** Use the January issue of *Response* magazine on the Charter for Racial Justice as a resource tool in your units, for spiritual growth and social action.
- **February:** Consider follow up to Hurricane Katrina through ministries and policy changes that address immigrant rights, race and poverty concerns. See January *Response* article on actions you can take. (see www.gbgm-umc.org/umw for Women's Division resolution on Katrina aftermath.)
- **March:** Have a special program using Women's Division Racial Justice Program resources to explore the Charter, consider how it relates to our units and our communities, and what actions we can take. (Contact Mae Reed, 212-870-3732 for packets in 2006).
- **April:** Consider making Racial Justice the theme of spiritual growth retreats. (Contact the Racial Justice Program for Bible studies and other workshop resources.)
- **May 4-7:** Look for special activities related to the Charter at the UMW Assembly, Anaheim, California, including Racial/Ethnic Caucuses during Saturday *Early Morning Option.*
- **June:** Explore public issues related to the Charter, including the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, the Patriot Act, Comprehensive Immigration Reform, Budget and taxation, and other issues. Contact Susie Johnson of the Women's Division Public Policy office, 202-488-5660.
- **July—August:** Consider the Racial Justice implications of study themes (Globalization, India/Pakistan, Peace/Shalom) at Schools of Christian Mission. Write letters to the editor of your local paper regarding local or national concerns raised by these issues.
- **September—October:** We invite you to make the Racial Justice charter a highlight of local, district and conference annual meetings.
- **November:** Use the Program Book session, "Building a Culture of Peace, Living God's Shalom" as a local program to explore how racial justice is linked to peace at all levels.
- **December:** Celebrate International Migrants Day, December 18, and International Human Rights Day, December 10. On international migrants day you can express support for immigrants by holding a forum to show a film on migrant rights, inviting a speaker from a local immigrant rights organization, or mobilizing an advocacy campaign around immigration reform (contact the Women's Division Public Policy office and Racial Justice office). On Human Rights Day you can hold a press conference or make a public declaration lifting up key human rights issues in your community such as housing, public education and healthcare, linking them to racial justice.

Write the Racial Justice Program, 475 Riverside Dr. Rm 1502, New York, NY 10115, 212-870-3732, cbarton@gbgm-umc.org and enazombe@gbgm-umc.org to let us know what you do! You can also post program ideas and community action to the UMW list serve at umw@list.gbgm-umc.org to share with other UMW leaders.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Rise! Shine! Glorify God!

Matthew 5:14-16, Isaiah 58:6-12, Psalm 106:1-5

The 2006 Assembly of United Methodist Women will take place in Anaheim, California at the Anaheim Convention Center, 800 West Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California 92802. Singing starts at 7:30 pm and the Opening Plenary begins at 8 pm on Thursday, May 4, 2006. The Assembly will end at approximately noon on Sunday, May 7, 2006.

2006 ASSEMBLY OFFERING

Because We Believe...Rise and Shine For Justice

The 2006 Assembly offering will fund organizations and projects that address issues of nutrition, transportation, and safe homes through education, advocacy and direct services on behalf of women, children and youth.

Because we believe that all of God's children, especially the disempowered, must be included at the table, we invite women, children and youth to "rise and shine for justice".

The Assembly offering is an opportunity for designated giving by United Methodist Women. Members can contribute to their local unit treasurers who send the money to the conference treasurers, through the usual remittance process. Each conference treasurer will bring a check to the Assembly to present during the Thursday, May 4th evening plenary. Individual participants may contribute to the offering during the Sunday, May 7th morning plenary. Funds designated as Assembly Offering may be contributed throughout the year and sent, via the treasurers, to Women's Division. Criteria for the distribution of funds will be determined by Women's Division.

HOW TO REGISTER

This packet of materials contains four Assembly Registration Forms and one Hotel Form. These forms allow up to four people to register using ONE packet. Photocopy any additional forms needed or request copies from the Assembly Business Office, 7820 Reading Road, Caller 1800, Cincinnati OH 45222-1800. Please follow the instructions on the back of the enclosed envelope to ensure proper registration. You may also register on-line at www.umwassembly.org.

Send one Registration Form and the $175 registration fee for each person registering. Make check(s) or money order(s) payable to: Assembly Business Office. You may also charge your registration fee to VISA or MASTERCARD by filling in the credit card information on the Registration Form. Please remember the fee is due with your registration, and if you are paying with a credit card, the Assembly Office will charge your credit card the day it processes your registration.

If registering for a hotel, fill out *one* Hotel Form for all people staying in *one* room. The Hotel Form must be accompanied by an Assembly Registration Form for each person listed on the Hotel Form. Hotel requests will be held until all people listed on the Hotel Form have registered for the Assembly. Return all completed forms and fees together in the provided envelope to help speed registration.

Register by the deadlines – *March 20, 2006 or before, if seating capacity is met. December 1, 2005 for Conference Hotel Room Blocks.* If cancellation becomes necessary after the March 20th deadline, registrants may transfer their registration to someone else. Notify the Assembly Business Office** and provide the name of the replacement person to accomplish this transfer. Your conference or district president my also be able to help in finding a person to purchase your Assembly seat. A cancellation charge of $50 will be deducted from the $175 fee and only $125 will be refunded.

Once your registration is processed, you will receive a gold *acknowledgment letter* showing your hotel assignment and other important information. *Keep this letter in a safe place.* Present it upon registration, in Anaheim, on the date and location shown to receive your Assembly packet, badge and lunch tickets.

PER NIGHT RATE STRUCTURE OF RECOMMENDED HOTELS

(All hotels listed have been approved by Project Equality)
(Rates do not include state and local taxes, which are added to each room rate)

Number on Map	Hotel Name	Room Rate	Number of Rooms in Block	Amenities
1	Anabella Hotel	$99.00	300	FP, R, L
2	Anaheim Marriott Hotel	$130.00	300	R, L
3	Best Western Raffles Inn & Suites	$85.00	100	CB
4	Clarion Hotel	$92.00 & $102.00 (Suites)	100 & 50 (Suites)	R, L
5	Coast Anaheim	$105.00	350	R, L
6	Comfort Inn	$75.00	85	
7	Hilton Anaheim	$130.00	600	R, L
8	Howard Johnson*	$79.00	200	FP, R
9	Portofino Inn & Suites	$104.00	125	
10	Travelodge	$85.00	80	CB, FP

*Shuttle service will be provided
CB – continental breakfast, FP – free parking, R – restaurant, L – lounge. Most hotels have pools and fitness centers.

Note: Check your hotel confirmations carefully for any other details relevant to your hotel.

HOW TO REQUEST A HOTEL ROOM

The Assembly Business Office processes hotel requests on a first come, first served basis. If you require a hotel room, submit the **Hotel Form** along with the appropriate Assembly Registration Form(s) and $175 registration fee(s) for all those listed on the Hotel Form. The Hotel Form allows you to register several people for a single hotel room. Please decide on your own roommates. The Assembly Business Office does not assign roommates. Mail all appropriate documents & fees together, to the Assembly Business Office**, in the enclosed envelope. This will speed the registration process. You will receive an acknowledgement letter from the Assembly Business Office and another from your assigned hotel.

Your hotel will require a room deposit. All reservations remain tentative until confirmed by one night's room deposit. Send deposits directly to the hotel or mark the credit card information area on your Hotel Form. Do not send hotel deposits to the Assembly Business Office. If you cancel or have a change of plans, please notify the Assembly Business Office**. *The guarantee is in effect for only the arrival date.* Be sure this date is accurate. Please carefully check the cancellation policy and arrival & departure dates for your hotel on your hotel acknowledgment. Please note some hotels have early departure fees. Hotel personnel will ask you to confirm your departure date at check-in.

CONFERENCE HOTEL BLOCK REGISTRATION

Many conferences request a block of rooms to be held for their attendees in a specific hotel. If you wish to stay with your conference block, please indicate this on the Hotel Form. This space fills up fast and will be closed on **December 1, 2005.** If your conference reserved a block of rooms, send your registration in early to receive one of the blocked rooms. Check with your district or conference president to see if a block was secured for your conference. If you cannot obtain this information, check the appropriate box indicating this problem on the Hotel Form and the Assembly Business Office will place you accordingly, if space allows.

ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FORM

ASSEMBLY OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
May 4th – May 7th, 2006 Anaheim, California

Please complete all information on this form. Photocopy or contact the Assembly Business Office, 7820 Reading Road, Caller 1800, Cincinnati OH 45222-1800 for additional forms. Send **one** registration form and a **$175 fee for each person.** The fee covers the cost of registration, packet and lunches on May 5th and 6th. {*The fee does not cover hotel costs.*} Make check(s) or money order(s) payable to the Assembly Business Office. Visa and MasterCard are also accepted; see below to make a credit card payment. **Note: If you require a hotel room, you must complete the Hotel Form. Every Hotel Form must have a separate Assembly Registration Form for each person staying in the hotel room. For example, if three people are staying in one room, it would require three Assembly Registration Forms and one Hotel Form. *Fixed costs mandate a $50.00 cancellation fee and allow for no refunds after March 20, 2006.**

Please print or type clearly and neatly

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Daytime: (____) _____ Evening, if different: (____) _____

____ **NO HOTEL FORM IS ENCLOSED, A HOTEL ROOM IS NOT NEEDED FROM THE ASSEMBLY BUSINESS OFFICE.**
(Check if this applies to you)

Attendee Profile: This helps in making an attendee report and gathering data for evaluation. Check all appropriate spaces.

____Female ____Male ____Laity ____Clergy Age: ____13-17 ____18-25 ____26-35 ____36-49 ____50-69 ____70--

Name of your UMW Conference: _____ or circle None

Emergency Info: Name to contact: _____ Phone No: (____) _____ Yes
Circle Yes if person is at the Assembly

Charge my registration fee to a credit card – **VISA & MASTERCARD ONLY** – Your card will be charged immediately.

Cardholder's Name: _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Special Needs and Instructions: Check all that apply

_____ I will need a wheelchair provided at the Assembly _____ I will bring a wheelchair to the Assembly _____ I cannot use stairs

_____Vegetarian Lunch _____No Spice Lunch

Describe other special needs required at the Assembly _____
If this space is inadequate, use a separate sheet to describe needs.

Translation requirements: _____French _____Korean _____Portuguese _____Russian _____Spanish

_____I will need sign language provided

Child Care: _____
Provide name & age of children needing care. Note: Childcare is provided during scheduled sessions for children ages 2–12 years old. A childcare form will accompany your Assembly registration acknowledgement. A $50 refundable deposit is required per family, in a separate check.*

Focus Group Selection: List below five *different* focus groups for each day, in order of preference. See the enclosed pink *Focus Group Sheet* for choices. Focus Groups are assigned on a first come, first served basis.

Friday, May 5th: 1._____ 2._____ 3._____ 4._____ 5._____ **Saturday, May 6th:** 1._____ 2._____ 3._____ 4._____ 5._____

*See Important Information for further details. **Registration Deadline: March 20, 2006** or before, if seating capacity is met.
December 1, 2005 deadline for conference hotel blocks.
Office Use Only: How Paid: _____ Category: _____ MA: _____ FW: _____
chlorine free

UMW—Women of All Ages in Worship and Praise

Shantrese Davis, UMW University Youth lights candle for communion at N.O. Dist. Meeting in LaPlace. Below Fannie Reddix, Pres., honors service of Margaret Milnor.

And Prayer

Look at us Lord Jesus!
We are women of all ages—blessed
With years of service, middle-aged,
And the youth of today.
We come to praise your Holy Name
And worship together
In all the circumstances of life.
Even in the sanctuary, in the midst
Of cots for volunteers after a storm,
We light a candle to represent
Your Holy Spirit.
We sing hymns and read Your Word.
We are women with a Purpose,
Because Your Love holds us
Together in Perfect Peace.

Staphenae Carey leads the N.O. District in songs of praise, and Shantrese Davis participates in the pledge service at Dec. 3, 2005 Annual Meeting in LaPlace

Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

Mary Quinones, Editor
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Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXX, No. 2 May 2006

Theme: Harvesting Peace

Louisiana Conference
School of Christian Mission
Wesley Conference Center, Woodworth, LA
July 5 - 8, 2006

Staphenae Carey
Dean

Jan Dickerson
Assistant Dean

"A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace" James 3:18

How often in our daily lives do we refer to or use the word, **"peace"**? During a Sunday service we offer each other a **sign of peace** with a handshake or a hug. We sing **"Let there be peace on Earth."** Pastors charge us to "**Go in peace.**" We select Christmas cards that express hope for ***"Peace on Earth."***

Shalom—Salaam—Peace, three words which mean "peace", are the foundation for our 2006 spiritual growth study. John 14:27 says that Jesus entrusted peace to us: ***"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."*** Where is peace when there is so much violence in the world? What is the price of peace? We ponder many questions and find no simple answers, but we continue to study God's Word and explore possibilities through dialogue which is open and inclusive.

The year 2006 is the 150th year of Methodist mission, ministry and heritage in **India and Pakistan**. Our geographic study draws attention to this history and the role of "a handful of women" organized for mission in 1869. The ongoing witness and growth of the church in India and Pakistan are a monumental testimony of faith and a fitting reminder of mission that is at once global and local.

Economic issues and policies will be the focus of our study on **Globalization: Its Impact in our Lives**. What occurs in one part of the world affects people in many other parts of the world. This study provides an opportunity for us to examine our roles in the global community.

Jan and I invite all of you—UMW, Laity, Clergy, Teen and College/University Women to the 2006 School of Christian Mission in July. We pray that open minds and hearts will prevail while we engage in meaningful dialogue as global members gathered in His name to show our love for Him and our neighbors as ourselves.

An Invitation from the President

Louisiana United Methodist Women have a glorious opportunity each summer to attend our Conference School of Christian Mission. Please encourage as many members and prospective members as you can to come. You will not have to encourage the ones who have been. They know what a spiritual growth experience this is! You will have religious education that is Bible based, and a retreat atmosphere to give physical, mental, and spiritual healing.

Dean Staphenae Carey and Assistant Dean Jan Dickerson have been working hard to make this a time of fun, fellowship, and learning. Lana Lathan, our Louisiana representative on the Regional School Team, has kept all of our workers coordinated and informed. **Come to Wesley Center, our "place of grace," during July 5-8, 2006.**

Our 2006 theme will be "Harvesting Peace". We all know that to harvest we must first plant. With that frame of reference, I wish to thank you for allowing me the privilege of witnessing many of our programs which do just that. As your President of Louisiana Conference UMW, I have attended board meetings and visited many of the special places and programs that we support. During these visits and reporting sessions, exciting and inspirational testimonials of sowing seeds of kindness, showing Christ-like love, and observing the nurturing of hurting souls gave me an opportunity to see individuals who are harvesting peace and understanding. World peace begins with the individual. Each one of these transformed lives will reach out to affect others. They are getting to know God and learning the fundamentals of Christian living. These are examples of seeds of hope for peace in our world. **They are living our Purpose. Support UMW! Come to our Conference School of Christian Mission!**

In Christ's Love,
Harriette Tucker Elrod,
Conference President

Mission Projects for 2006

The Louisiana Conference UMW Executive Committee approved Layette Kits and School Kits as our Mission Projects for 2006. Layette Kits will be collected at our School of Christian Mission—July 5—8 at the Wesley Center, and School Kits will be collected at our Annual Meeting in Monroe, September 15-16, 2006. Following are the items for the Layette Kits and School Kits for UMCOR. School Supplies for our other Mission Agencies will be printed in the next newsletter.

Layette Kit

- 6 Cloth Diapers
- 2 Shirts or 2 One-Piece Body Suits
- 2 Baby Washcloths
- 2 Gowns or Sleepers
- 2 Diaper Pins
- 1 Sweater Open in Front
- 2 Receiving Blankets

Bundle the items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins.

Value: $35.00 Per Kit

In a separate envelope, please send a check for at least $1 for each kit to help UMCOR Sager Brown with the costs of processing and shipping kits around the world.

School Kit

- 1 Pair Blunt Scissors (Rounded Tip)
- 2 Pads (of Loose Leaf) of 8 1/2 x 11" Ruled Paper
- 1 30-Centimeter Ruler
- 1 Hand Held Pencil Sharpener
- 6 Unsharpened Pencils with Erasers
- 1 Eraser, 2 1/2"
- 12 Sheets Construction Paper (Varied Colors)
- 1 Box of 24 Crayons (Only 24)

Prepare a 14" x 16" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and a closure (Velcro, snap or button) and place items in the bag.

Value: $11.00 Per Kit

In a separate envelope, please send a check for at least $1 for each kit to help UMCOR Sager Brown with the costs of processing and shipping kits around the world.

The Learning Center

District sponsored Learning Center Displays will highlight the 2006 Studies. The Learning Center will be located along the hallway of the main lodge.

A table and covering will be provided for each district. Displays will be ready for viewing by 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 5th and taken down Friday after Fun Night, July 7th.

Certification and Credits Opportunity

Up to 2.00 CEU credits for clergy, as outlined by the Board of Ordained Ministry, are available for full participation in the 2006 School of Christian Mission.

Lay Speakers who need to re-certify can also receive a certificate of full participation in studies that can be presented to their District Lay Leader for approved re-certification.

Class is Called to Order—Get Your Textbooks, Study Guides and Audio-Visuals!

Resources to prepare you for the exciting 2006 School of Christian Mission and for studies in 2007:

(For Additional Information Contact Lana P. Lathan, Secretary of Program Resources.)

GLOBALIZATION

(General Issue Study)

Adult Study Text: *Globalization and Its Impact on People's Lives 2006-2007*
Mission Study with Study Guide By Elmira Nazombe
Service Center Stock # 3724
Price: $7.50

Youth Study Text: *The Big G – Mission Study on Globalization*
Youth Book with Leader's Guide By Tamara Walker
Service Center Stock # 3725
Price: $6.00

Response Magazine Issue April 2006;
Service Center Stock # 3746
Price: $2.00
New World Outlook Issue March/April 2006;
Service Center Stock # 3738
Price: $3.00

SHALOM, SALAAM, PEACE

(Spiritual Growth Study)

Adult Study Text: *Shalom, Salaam, Peace*
By Allison Stokes with study guide by Pat Patterson
Service Center Stock # 3729 (English); # 3730 (Spanish); # 3731 (Korean
Price: $7.00

Youth Study Text: *Shalom, Salaam, Peace*
By Barbara Ross
Service Center Stock # 3734
Price: $9.95

Response Magazine Issue July-August 2005
Stock # 3674
Price: $2.00
New World Outlook Issue May-June 2006 stock # 3739
Price: $3.00

INDIA-PAKISTAN

(Geographical Study; repeat study)

Adult Study Text: India-Pakistan
By Gloria Dharmaraj
with Study Guide by Diane Miller
Service Center Stock # 3649 (English)
Price: $7.50

Map N Facts: India-Pakistan By Sarla Chand
Service Center Stock # 3692
Price: $8.95

Response Magazine Issue May 2006;
Service Center Stock # 3747
Price: $2.00
Response Magazine Issue May 2005;
Service Center Stock # 3672
Price: $1.75
New World Outlook Magazine Issue May/June 2005;
Service Center Stock #3683
Price: $3.00

Per info from Service Center there will be no audio-visual for the new 2006 studies. The audio-visual for the 2005 studies (Mission Magazine) is housed at the Louisiana Methodist Conference Area Office

527 North Blvd; Baton Rouge, LA. 70802

This resource can be borrowed state-wide by contacting Mrs. Shirlene Spears. Librarian,

Call: 225-346-1646, Extension 228

You may purchase these resources at our conference school (July 5-8, 2006) in the Resource Room, or you may order from the Service Center:

By phone: Toll free at 1-800-305-9857
Regular or Personal Orders Dept.

Fax Orders to: 1-513-761-3722 (Available 24 Hrs)
By Mail: Service Center
7820 Reading Road Caller #1800
Cincinnati, OH 45222-1800

By E-Mail: SCorders@gbgm-umc.org

Web site: http://gbgm-umc.org/e-store/

SCHEDULE FOR 2006 SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Wednesday, July 5

10:00 a.m.—12 Noon	**Registration**
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Book Store Open
10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Study Leaders meet.
11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	**First Timers Orientation**
12 Noon	**Lunch**
1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Community Singing
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	**Plenary I**
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	**Study:** Shalom–Salaam- Peace
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	**Study:** India and Pakistan or Globalization
6:00 p.m. -	**Dinner**
6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Book Store Open
7:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	What's New?

Thursday, July 6

6:45 a.m.	**Spiritual Exercise**
7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.	**Breakfast** (Book Store Open)
8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.	Community Singing
8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	**Plenary II**
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	**Study:** India and Pakistan or Globalization
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon	Book Store Open
12 Noon	**Lunch**
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	**Study:** Shalom – Salaam – Peace
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Rest/Reflection
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	**Study:** India and Pakistan or Globalization
6:00 p.m.	**Dinner**
6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Book Store Open
7:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Film

Friday, July 7

6:45 a.m.	**Spiritual Exercise**
7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.	**Breakfast** (Book Store Open)
8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.	Community Singing
8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	**Plenary III**
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	**Study:** Shalom – Salaam – Peace
11:15 a.m. – 12 noon	Workshop: Those planning to lead Studies
12 noon	**Lunch**
12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Book Store Open
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	**Study:** India and Pakistan or Globalization
3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Book Store Open
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Rest/Reflection
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	**Study:** Shalom–Salaam-Peace
6:00 p.m.	**Dinner**
6:50 p.m.	Fun Night

Saturday, July 8

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	**Study:** India and Pakistan or Globalization
9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	**Study:** Shalom – Salaam – Peace
11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	**Plenary IV**
11:45 a.m.	**Lunch**

School of Christian Mission Team

Dean ..... Staphenae Carey
Assistant Dean ..... Jan Dickerson
President ..... Harriette Elrod
Vice President ..... Edna Hickman
Secretary ..... Jan Rose
Registration ..... Jane Eubanks
Housing .....Shirley Jacocks
Spiritual Growth .....Beverly Cox
Social Action .....Jeanne Green
Education & Interpretation ..... Tillie Shows
Membership, Nurture
& Outreach .....Maribel Mojica Calvo
Literature Display & Sales ..... Lana Lathan
Communications/Publicity ....Mary Quinones
Audio Visuals .....Shannon Rachal
Jackie Pennington .....Song Leader & Pianist

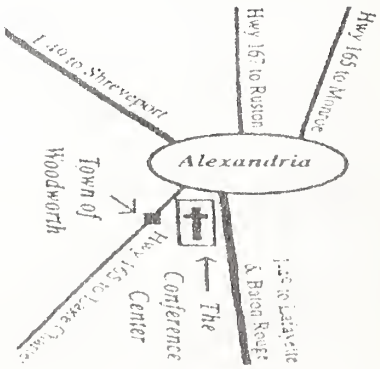
All Roads Lead To School of Christian Mission

Directions:

From Baton Rouge, take I-10 West to Lafayette, exit North on I-49. From I-49, take Woodworth exit, go under overpass, turn right at sign onto feeder road and follow signs to the lake and buildings. (105 miles)

From New Orleans, take I-10 West to Baton Rouge and follow directions above. (182 miles)

From Shreveport, take I-49 South thru Alexandria. Take Woodworth exit and turn right at sign onto feeder road. Follow signs to the lake and buildings. (129 miles)



Introducing the 2006 School of Christian Mission Study Leaders

Spiritual Growth Study—Shalom—Salaam—Peace

CLIFTON CONRAD—Rev. Clifton Conrad Sr. is a native of Baton Rouge, LA. He is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a B.S. in Education and a M.Ed. in Guidance and Counseling. He is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA. He is pastor of Immanuel UMC in Lafayette and employed with the Lafayette Parish School System as School Counselor at W.D. Smith Career Center. Pastor Conrad is past president of both the Acadiana District UM Men and the Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors for the Louisiana Annual Conference. He currently serves as Chair of the Acadiana District UMC Ministry Team. He and Kathleen Carter Conrad have been married for 28 years and are the proud parents of Clifton Jr., currently serving in the US Navy, and Chantel, in her first year of Law School at DePaul University.

Geographical Study—India and Pakistan

GLORIA TUCK BENNETT—Gloria Bennett is a native of Monroe and member of First UMC, where she has been active as a teacher, member of Administrative Board and various committees, and singing in the Chancel Choir. She is a retired legal secretary and paralegal. She has traveled with the Women's Division mission team to Israel, Palestine and Egypt; other travels include Mexico, Canada, the Caribbean, Great Britain and Norway. Gloria has served on district and conference levels of both Wesleyan Service Guild and UMW, having been the last Conference Chairperson of the Wesleyan Service Guild prior to merging with Women's Society of Christian Service into UMW. She has volunteered for Twin City Ballet, Monroe's Little Theatre, AARP, and most recently the Ouachita Council on Aging. Gloria is a member of two UMW circles, First UMC in Monroe and McGuire UMC in West Monroe.

ARNOLD VESTAL BROWN, SR—Rev. Arnold Brown is the pastor of Neely UMC. He has led mission studies for the Baton Rouge, Acadiana, New Orleans, and former North Shore Districts, as well as teaching Joshua and John Wesley in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. For the Louisiana Conference he taught Africa, Refugees and James. Rev. Brown has earned a Pre-Med Degree at Dillard University and a Masters of Divinity at Gammon Theological Seminary. He has served on the Conference Committee on Special Ministries and the Board of Ordained Ministry. Rev. Brown and his wife, Doris, are the parents of Arnold, Jr. (13) and Joy (3).

SUKUMARI (SUE) HAKEEM-MICHAEL—Rev. Sue Hakeem-Michael was born in a Methodist parsonage in Bidar, India. Rev. Sue came to the United States to attend college in Atlanta where she received a Masters Degree in School Administration. She has been teaching in Schools of Christian Mission since 1972. United Methodist Women encouraged her to go to seminary, and now she has been preaching for 23 years. She transferred to the Mississippi Conference in 1998 where she has served in Oxford for more than three years. Rev. Sue made a mission trip to Cuba in 2004 and visited India in 2005. Also in 2005 she taught in Arkansas and Louisiana Conference Schools of Christian Mission.

General Issue Study Leaders—Globalization

PAM CREWS—Rev. Pam Crews is a native of the delta land of Arkansas. She is a 1992 Centenary Graduate and is an Ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church. Pam holds a Masters in Christian Education from United Theological Seminary (1998). Her past experience includes youth director for seven years and three years as District Missioner (resourcing local churches). She is currently at First Methodist Church, Shreveport, where she is responsible for equipping and mobilizing volunteers, resourcing adult discipleship ministries, coordinating prayer ministry, as well as other Pastoral responsibilities. Pam is married to Joe and they have four children, Trish, Kenny, Russell and Leann. In her leisure time, she enjoys riding her jet ski and spending time with her family. Pam has been a study leader in the School of Christian Mission in Dallas for the past two years

HALLIQUE L. DAWSON—Hallique L. Dawson is a native of South Carolina. She is a graduate of S.C. State A & M College with a B.S. in Home Economics, and Southern University in Baton Rouge with a Masters Degree in Elementary Education and Guidance. She has worked until retirement in 2005 in the school systems in Plaquemine and Baton Rouge, both as a teacher and in a Guidance Position. After first retiring, she completed studies at Southern Methodist at Perkins Theological Seminary in Dallas, Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. and Emery Seminary in Atlanta, and was commissioned as Deaconess in October 2000. She has traveled all over the world. She was married to the late Professor Leslie H. Dawson and they were blessed with two boys and two girls. She is the LA State President of Church Women United, and Chairperson of the Southern University Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. She is a member and Deaconess of Camphor Memorial UMC, in Baton Rouge.

BERNADINE JOHNSON—Rev. Bernadine Johnson is a native of New Orleans, presently residing in Baton Rouge. She is an ordained deacon, and was a delegate to the 2004 South Central Jurisdictional conference. She serves as chairperson of the Division of Deacons and Diaconal Ministers of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Rev. Johnson is a long-time member and supporter of UMW, and has served as a study leader for the LA Conference School of Christian Mission for the studies on Mexico and Creating Interfaith Community. She has also lead studies for district mini-schools and local church units. She has taught several courses in the Baton Rouge District Lay Speaking School. She is active in Kairos Prison Ministry, serves on the boards of United Methodist HOPE Ministries and LSU Wesley Campus Ministries, and has made mission trips to Arizona-Mexico and South Africa. She is an attorney in public service practicing in lawyer regulation and professional ethics.

VAN A. STINSON—Rev. Van A. Stinson is the pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Covington, Louisiana. He has served churches in both the East Ohio Annual Conference and the Louisiana Annual Conference for the past ten years, most recently having served as the senior associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is a native of Mississippi. Rev. Stinson is a graduate of the Methodist Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Julie, are active in both the annual conference and in their local community.

RODNEY DUANE WOOTEN—Rev. Rodney Wooten grew up in South Central Los Angeles. After an injury while playing basketball in the European Basketball Association, he returned to the states to graduate from Lane College in Tennessee. He received a master of Arts in Religion and a Master of Divinity from Memphis Theological Seminary. Rev. Wooten is pastor of Scott United Methodist church in Port Allen and Director of the Wesley Foundation at Southern University, Baton Rouge Campus. He is also the founder and executive director of two ministries that have served over 500 youth. Rev. Wooten has received numerous honors and awards as a community leader as well as an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Religious Humanities.

Youth/Teen Study Leaders

LUEBURDA J. MYERS—Lueburda J. Myers is a native of Napoleonville in Assumption Parish, Louisiana. She is married to Kenneth Myers and they have two adult sons and six grandchildren. She is a retired teacher from Caddo Parish Public School District, currently employed by the City of Shreveport Parks and Recreation Department as Superintendent of Recreation and Promotions. Lueburda is a member of St. Paul UMC where she serves as Lay Leader and is a certified lay speaker. She initiated the *Reading is Fundamental Project* in 1978 that currently serves 425 children in West Shreveport Elementary School. The Myers Family also donates all incentives and awards for St. Paul's Academic Recognition Awards for students in the church and neighboring communities. She began women's mission work with the Wesleyan Service Guild and was Chairman of Shreveport District "B". She became the 2nd President of St. Paul's UMW unit. Lueburda participated in the merger of Conferences "A" and "B" to form the Louisiana Conference UMW Organization. She has served on the Shreveport District UMW Mission Team, as Louisiana Conference representative to the West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission and Regional Team's Literature Secretary, and was elected to the South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group where she served as secretary for the 1988-1992 quadrennium. She was a delegate to the 2004 General Conference and South Central Jurisdictional Conference. Lueburda was the first African-American elected as Louisiana Conference UMW President and served from 2002-2005. She is currently serving on the Louisiana Conference UMW Committee on Nominations, Class of 2009.

DORET GILBERT-WILSON—Doret Gilbert-Wilson grew up in Jamaica. She has been in the United States for 37 years, and in Monroe, Louisiana for the past 15 years. She has a Business Degree in Management and has worked for a major corporation as a Manufacturing Supervisor. Doret has served in district positions—as Youth Co-Coordinator, UMW Vice President, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation, and Lay Speaker. She is currently President of her local UMW Unit, Mission and Worship Coordinator for her church, and serves on the Conference Board of Discipleship and the committee on Strengthening Black Churches. Doret started the Young Adventurers for Hope UMC, and is the Executive Director for a non-profit organization which helps adults and kids who are victims of HIV/AIDS, leprosy and homelessness. She is married and has two children.

Song Leader and Pianist

DOROTHY PENNINGTON—Dorothy "Jackie"' Pennington resides in Covington, Louisiana. She is a native of Mississippi and a graduate of Alcorn State University. She teaches vocal music and piano at Pitcher Junior High School in the St. Tammany Parish School System. Jack also works with her husband, Rev. Walter B. Pennington, pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in New Orleans. She has served Grace UMC and Thompson UMC as organist and director of music. She and Walter are the proud parents of three grown children and one teenager. They are also proud grandparents of six.

District Scrapbooks On Display at SCM

- UMW Sunday Pictures and Activities
- Church Bulletin Ideas
- Find yourself in the fun!
- See what will become our history in the archives at the Wesley Conference Center.

2006 Conference Upcoming Events

June	22-25	West Gulf Regional SCM
July	5– 8	LA Conference SCM
Sept.	14	UMW Exec. Committee Mtg.
Sept.	15-16	LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting, Monroe, LA
October	14	UMW District Elected Leaders Training (DELT), Alexandria
November	11	Program Committee & SCM Committee Meetings

Mission Study Displays By Districts

Every UMW District has prepared a mission study display to provide an overall visual presentation of a particular study. Be sure to stop by each table to see how you may present the study to your unit.

At the display tables are also handouts for participants to take home and share with others.

You Just Might Burst!

When have you been so excited about something that you thought you would burst if you didn't share it with someone? Remember the day you got engaged, or the moment your first grandchild was born, or the call from your son saying he was coming home from the war?

Each summer I get excited about our School of Christian Mission. I look forward to it every year and I think it is one of the best opportunities we have as United Methodist Women. It's fun, inspiring and educational. It strengthens and binds us in our purpose—serving God. It's one of those extraordinary things I just have to share with someone else. It's that good!

I encourage you to get on the phone, write a note or email your friends. Invite them to come to our School of Christian Mission, so they won't miss all the excitement. Tell them about the enriching studies, the great music, the praise and worship, the peaceful prayer time, the inspiring morning devotions, the funny skit, and the wonderful fellowship. It can be so good! If you don't share it with someone, you just might burst!

"I pray that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace, while you trust in Him. Then your hope will overflow by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

Beverly Cox,
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

Communication for Mission

Have you moved? Changed your name? Changed your phone number? Changed your email? Jan Rose needs your current information to correct our Conference Directory of District Officers and Local Unit Presidents, and we need this same information for mailing of our Conference Newsletter. Just mail it to her at:

181 McBride Street, Ruston, LA 71270 or
Email: **janrose@LaTech.edu**

Have you found our UMW Newsletter on the Louisiana Conference Website? Beginning with our January 2006 Conference Newsletter, you can download and print the newsletter to share with the members of your unit. Because of the "electronic" age we live in, it is now possible to reach more members sooner and still save mission money! Imagine!

Just log on to: **www.la-umc.org/Laity/UMWomen**

Help us save mission dollars as we serve you! If you are willing to get your copy of the Newsletter via the website instead of by regular mail, please contact us to remove your name from our mailing list. Just email Jan Rose, or Mary Quinones:

janrose@LaRech.edu
or
pmquinones2@aol.com

When you contact us, also give us the email address by which we may contact you. This is an excellent way to receive interim news—"hot off the press!"

Artist: Anita H. Hansberry, Wesley UMC, Baton Rouge, LA

"Harvesting peace can only occur when seeds akin to the Fruits of the Spirit are planted. It has often been said "If peace is desired, one must work for justice." Justice comes when we ask ourselves as Micah 6:8b asked… "what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?" To harvest peace, we must plant seeds that will multiply locally, nationally and globally.

Education & Interpretation

- Unit/District Mission Trips to Louisiana Missions may purchase insurance through the Conference UMW, for fifty cents per person, to cover you from the time you leave home until you return. Contact Conference Treasurer, Jane Eubanks, for further information.
- Mission Giving provides education, feeds the hungry, gives aid to heal the sick, and nurtures women and children all over the world. The Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries makes sure there is a need before Mission Giving funds are disbursed.
- Designated Giving must be used only for the Designated Charity or Cause that the giver names, and sometimes that charity or cause can be dissolved, leaving funds behind that cannot be used.
- Deadline Reminders for:

  Completed Mission Studies—Due June 1, 2006

  Mission Today Forms—Due August 1, 2006

Women's Division Grants—Scholarships—& Financial News

Women's Division Start-Up Grants For District Units—Circles—Subgroups Of UMC Teens and College/University Women

Qualified applicants must meet the following criteria:

A. Involve teen women (ages 12-17 or grades 6-12) and/or college/university women (ages 18-25) enrolled at least part-time in academic, vocational or technical programs of higher education.

B. Be a District Unit, Circle or Subgroup (established with the local unit) of teens and/or college/university women organized within the past 12 months, OR demonstrate strong plans and goals for establishing such a group within the next 12 months.

C. Have a designated adult (from within the local unit as prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws of United Methodist Women) sponsor the District Unit, Circle or Subgroup. The adult sponsor cannot hold an elected office in the organization of United Methodist Women.

D. Demonstrate clear goals and plans for promoting the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women through the Pledge to Mission, spiritual growth, mission and action, the Reading Program, Response Magazine and program resources

For more information, or to submit an application, call:

Maribel Mojica-Calvo
Conference Coordinator for Membership
Nurture and Outreach
(504) 559-4206

New Name—Same Great Opportunity MISSION GIVING

Undesignated Giving has a new name: MISSION GIVING. When Women's Division Directors met in April, 2006, they responded to the growing number of United Methodist Women members asking them to find a new name for the core of their financial giving. Directors heard members, brainstormed new names and voted for MISSION GIVING.

The 2006 Assembly in Anaheim marks the rollout of the new name. While the name is new, the concept of giving to the total mission program of United Methodist Women continues. Mission giving allows us to retain the focus on an issue long enough to make a difference. It also allows money to flow to emerging mission work.

In just one of the focus groups at Assembly, there were ten missionaries from different countries/continents. They spoke about programs that have been developed and supported because of UMW Mission Giving. They even brought Power Point presentations to show what they are doing. Complete biographies and photos are available on the Global Ministries website at: http://gbgm-umc.org/who_we_are/mp/.

Special 2006 Women's Division Scholarships To Conference School of Christian Mission For Participants From Disaster Areas

Scholarships Awarded will provide Room and Board Only

For Applicants Who Have

- Previously attended a LA Conference School of Christian Mission
- And, reside within the New Orleans or Lake Charles Districts or other locations declared to be disaster areas from the 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and/or Rita.
- And, suffered substantial financial loss that would make them unable to attend the 2006 School.

Applicants would be required to pay for their registration, and travel expenses.

Applications must be submitted by **deadline of June 19th.**

For information or to apply, contact:

Jane Eubanks, Conference Treasurer

(985) 419-8741

Or Email: teachpreach@I-55.com

Finance and United Methodist Women

The Women's Division is a healthy organization, but our passion for mission has outstripped our annual income for a few years. Now is a time of re-building funds and re-envisioning the work we do. We are committed to fiscal responsibility, balancing the Division budget annually, and finding new ways to increase giving and fundraising efforts. We continue to have substantial wealth. We plan on continuing mission for another 137 years and beyond. To do this, we will explore new options for funding mission.

UMW work is not always in the media as a relief item; however, it is United Methodist Women who empower women and children long before and after the media has stopped covering specific geographic areas and disasters. It is every member's responsibility to tell these stories so that women understand their gifts make a difference in real lives, even after others have left a scene. UMW work empowers women and children for the long-term to have a better life.

The Women's Division is committed to maintaining the funding to national and international mission programs and projects. These are at the heart of our work as United Methodist Women and affect "the least of these" in the world. With our historical Mission Giving to the total mission program, this work can continue.

For Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, Visit:

http://gbgm-umc.org/UMW

THE ESTELLE DAMERON SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Conference of United Methodist Women annually provides interested women an opportunity to attend its School of Christian Mission through the Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Fund. The scholarship continues to grow in Mrs. Dameron's honor through gifts, special offerings, and yearly contributions from local UMW units. This tradition is even more important as we prepare for mission in the year 2006 and beyond.

The Membership Nurture and Outreach Committee is encouraging young, seasoned, energetic, single, married, employed, homemakers, students or newly retired women to apply for a scholarship. Applications can come from a large or small unit, and we will also consider persons other than members of United Methodist Women. Getting women interest in mission at an early age and at new life stages is one way to insure the vitality and growth of an educated, mission-minded membership. Please urge women in these age/interest categories to apply. All applicants should indicate a willingness to attend and participate fully in all activities of the school. One applicant per unit and **first timers ONLY** should send a completed application form with a written statement of 50 words or less, entitled: **I want to attend the School of Christian Mission because...**

Applications must be postmarked by June 5, 2006, and mailed to: Maribel Mojica Calvo
62200 Lions Rd
Amite, LA 70422

Estelle Dameron School of Christian Mission Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant _____ Phone ( ) _____

Applicant's Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit (Church) Name _____ District _____

Unit President or Contact Person _____

President or Church Address _____

(1) Has applicant attended a School of Christian Mission before?
___ Yes
___ No

(2) Applicant's Age Grouping
___ High School
___ Under 35
___ 36-50
___ 51 and older

(3) Employment:
___ Full time
___ Part time
___ Retired
___ Student
___ Homemaker

(4) Applicant's Choice of Study:
___ Globalization
___ Pakistan and India

INCLUDE A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF FIFTY (50) WORDS OR LESS TELLING WHY YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION.

(A separate sheet may be used.)

Send Registration & Housing Form to:
Jane N. Eubanks
44040 Parker Blvd. Hammond, LA 70403
BY June 26, 2006
Make Check Payable to:
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

ADULT REGISTRATION

School of Christian Mission
July 5- 8, 2006
Louisiana Conference Center

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Phone No.: ( ) _____
Church: _____District:_____

All Participants mail ONLY $15.00 with Registration
No refunds will be made after **June 26th**
All Conference Officers and Study Leaders
MUST Register

Check all that apply:
( )First Timer
( )Need first floor room (explain below)
. _____
( )Rooming with Teen Woman
( )Staying at home
( )Executive Committee
( )District Officer
( )Study Leader at District SCM
( )Retired Missionary or Retired Deaconess
Roommates preferred_____
_____
_____

Studies: Choose one of the following:
( ) India and Pakistan
( ) Globalizartion: Its Impact in Our Lives
Everyone participates in the study: Shalom-Peace-Salaam

Cost for Adults/Youth-to be paid upon arrival
2 to a room - $181.00 per person
3 or 4 to a room - $172.00 per person
Individual meals must be paid at Conference Center desk.

Cummuters:$5.00 per day participation paid to Wesley Center
Breakfast $5.00; Lunch $7.00, Dinner $10.00
Cummuters: Indicate meals you plan to eat at the Conf. Center
7/5 L__,D__7/6 B__,L__,D__, 7/7 B__,L__,D__,7/8 B__,L__:

TEEN WOMEN REGISTRATION

Name:_____
Age:_____School level in Sept. 2006_____
Address:_____
City:_____Zip:_____
Phone No.:( )_____
Church:_____District:_____
Name of Adult rooming with you:_____
* Teen Women must be 13 to 17 years old
_____has permission to go on a field trip in connection with her studies.
_____(parent/guardian signature)

Teen Women participate in all three studies:with Teen Leaders

Registration and Housing Information

Registration fee includes insurance coverage from time you leave your home, through your stay and your return home. All rooms have two double beds and bath. Cost is based on number of persons per room and includes meals. Cots will be available upon request and at extra cost. Requests for cots must be received prior to June 21st. Rooms are limited and will be assigned on a first-come basis until full. The Registrar will make ALL room assignments. When rooms are filled, information will be made available of alternate housing. Those not staying at the Conference Center must make their own arrangements. There must be at least one adult in the room with youth.

EMERGENCY FORM

Person to notify in case of Emergency:
Name:_____
Address:_____
_____
Phone: ( )_____
Bring with you to School -
1. Insurance Card
2. Doctor's Name and Phone Number
3. Bring all prescription drugs & OTC drugs you might need.
NOTE: We will dispense NO medications on premises.

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All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, and recipes are welcome.
This Newsletter is published three times a year.

Due Dates:
January Newsletter—Due Date Dec. 1, 2006
May Newsletter—Due Date April 1, 2006
August Newsletter—Due Date June 21, 2006

Send your article(s) to Mary Quinones by:
Mail—10306 Elizabeth Rose Ct
Houston, TX 77089
Phone—281-464-7460
Email—pmquinones2@aol.com

Louisiana
United Methodist Women

Mary Quinones, Editor
4904 Bissonet Dr.
Metairie, LA 70003-1138

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Tina Abner
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TO

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women

Volume XXX, No. 3 August 2006

The 33rd Annual Meeting
Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
September 15-16, 2006, First United Methodist Church, Monroe, LA

GLORIFY GOD!

RISE! SHINE!

UMW 2007

"Praise the Lord."

" Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love endures forever.

"Who can proclaim the might acts of the Lord or fully declare His praise? Blessed are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right.

"Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people, come to my aid when you save them, that I may enjoy the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may share in the joy of your nation and join your inheritance in giving praise."

Psalm 106: 1-5

The 33rd Annual Meeting of Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women will convene at 1:00 pm on Friday, September 15, 2006, in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church, Monroe, Louisiana.

We are continuing the 2006 UMW Assembly Theme: Rise! Shine! Glorify God! We will be challenged to rise our common Purpose, letting our light shine to the world as we glorify God and make His deeds known to all people. As we celebrate, our theme hymn will be "To God Be the Glory," and the scripture is Psalm 106:1-5 "Praise the Lord! ..."

Conference President Harriette Elrod will preside over the Annual Meeting. Welcoming UMW members and guests will be Bishop William Hutchinson of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Church, Rev. Robert Burgess, Monroe District Superintendent, Rev. Larry Stafford, Senior Pastor of the host church, Georgie Lee Roberson, Monroe District UMW President, and Joe Hale, Local Unit President and Annual Meeting Assistant Chairperson.

Dr. Jan Love, former Deputy General Secretary of the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries, will be the inspiring speaker for the Friday evening banquet and the Saturday morning session.

The ladies of the Monroe District extend warm hospitality and invite you to come Rise! Shine! And Glorify God!

Sandy DeCelle,
Chairperson

Jo Hale,
Asst. Chairperson

We Brought Assembly Back To YOU!

Louisiana United Methodist Women - please come to Annual Meeting. We have brought the best of the Anaheim Assembly back to our conference gathering to be held in Monroe on September 15-16, 2006. One special item is our Conference Banner made by Mary Core and Beverly Cox. There was an opening parade of conference banners, accompanied by exciting and joyful music, starting the Assembly with great pomp and circumstance! After the meeting, the banners were available for viewing in the display area. Our banner got the most attention. The assigned focus, "Rise, Shine, Glorify God," lent itself to telling the Katrina and Rita tragedies. Starting at the bottom of the banner, there are flooded areas extending inward from the Gulf of Mexico, abandoned buses and other familiar sights, which together depict that New Orleans and Louisiana will "Rise" again from the floods and multiple disasters. People around the world saw that terrible visual. Above this, in the middle of the banner, is an outline map of Louisiana that says "Shine." We will let our lights of faith shine as witness to triumph over tragedy by the grace of our God. The title at the top is appropriately "Glorify God." Come to Annual Meeting and join your UMW friends as we "Rise, Shine, and Glorify God" together.

We are blessed to have Jan Love, who presented the closing Assembly program, to be our guest speaker at Annual Meeting. Our team is bringing the favorite Assembly speaker to you. She will motivate you so strongly that you will feel like turning the world upside down — transforming lives to change.

Assembly set us on fire for Christ. Keep that radiance glowing. Gaze upon the wonder, beauty, and majesty of our God through reading scripture, experiencing the beauty of God's Creation, and praying. Our glow will be renewed as long as we live. Join us as we again ignite new fires and rekindle our hearts for Christ at Annual Meeting.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

In Christ's Love,

Harriette Tucker Elrod,

UMW Conference President

2007 Mission Ribbons

Mission Ribbons will be available at the Annual Meeting Registration Area. Please write or call Jane Eubanks, Conference Treasurer to find out availability of the ribbons you need. At that time, the ribbons will be set aside for you and held until Annual Meeting, or until you send your payment. Write or call Jane at 44040 Parker Blvd., Hammond, LA 70403, 985-419-8741.

Or you may email: teachpreach@i55.com. All proceeds will go toward your Conference Mission Giving. There will also be a limited number of mission ribbons from past years available.

Update on 2006 Mission Projects

Congratulations ladies! A total of 92 Layette Kits were collected at our School of Christian Mission in July. The total value of the Layette Kits collected was $3,220.00, along with $1,337.00 additional giving sent with the kits for **UMCOR**. **School Kits will be collected at our Annual Meeting** in Monroe, September 15-16, 2006. Following are the items for the School Kits for **UMCOR**.

School Kit

- 1 Pair Blunt Scissors (Rounded Tip)
- 2 Pads (of Loose Leaf) of 8 1/2 x 11" Ruled Paper
- 1 30-Centimeter Ruler
- 1 Hand Held Pencil Sharpener
- 6 Unsharpened Pencils with Erasers
- 1 Eraser, 2 1/2"
- 12 Sheets Construction Paper (Varied Colors)
- 1 Box of 24 Crayons

Prepare a 14" x 16" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and a closure (Velcro, snap or button) and place items in the bag.

Value: $11.00 Per Kit

In a separate envelope, please send a check for at least $1 for each kit to help UMCOR Sager Brown with the costs of processing and shipping kits around the world.

SEE ARTICLE BELOW ON HOW OUR GIFTS TO UMCOR REALLY COUNT!

UMCOR Listed by *Newsweek* Among "Big Names in Katrina Relief"

NEW YORK, NY, June 29, 2006—The UM Committee on Relief ranked sixth for the amount raised for hurricane relief in a recent survey by *Newsweek* of the "Big Names in Katrina Relief." UMCOR raised some $64.5 million for hurricane relief and rehabilitation that will fund long-term recovery for the next three years. This is in addition to the thousands of hours UM Volunteers have put into the recovery effort and the $7.6 million UM and others donated in relief supplies. UMCOR policy of using 100% of all designated funds for their intended programs ensures every dollar donated will go to hurricane recovery. **More @** www.gbgm-umc.org/umcor.

Slate of Nominations for Louisiana Conference U.M.W.
Nominated for a Two-Year Term: January 2007—December 2008

Mission Coordinator for Social Action

Barbara Ferguson
P.O. Box 24878
New Orleans, LA 70124
(504) 450-9419

Committee on Nominations, Chairperson

Lueburda Myers (Class 2009)
P. O. Box 36797
Shreveport, LA 71133
(318) 221-7657

Committee on Nominations, Members

Frances Patton (Class 2010)
407 Gregory Street
Vidalia, LA 71373
(318) 336-5452

Jonelle Walker (Class 2010)
9740 Hwy. 28 E Lot 10
Pineville, LA 71360
(318) 466-1371

Patricia Watson (Class 2010)
408 Eugene Street
Denham Springs, LA 70726
(225) 665-2146

Submitted by Evelyn B. Martin, Nominations Committee Chairperson

Louisiana Conference U.M.W.—Proposed Goals for the Year 2007

In keeping with the Purpose of United Methodist women, in 2007 our goals will be:

I. To be **A Community of Women**, accomplishing a 2% increase in membership by:
   A. Seeking to charter new units in churches where units do not exist.
   B. Revitalizing units that have limited resources.
   C. Creating one Prison Ministry in each District.
   D. Creating teen, college/university age and newly retired women's circles in each District.

II. To encourage children, youth and women **to know God** by:
   A. Promoting conference, district and local unit mission studies as outlined by the Women's Division, with emphasis on improving public education in our community; and attending local, district and conference Schools of Christian Mission, Annual Meetings and Spiritual Retreats.
   B. Incorporating the use of the Prayer Calendar in daily devotions.
   C. Implementing a Children's Reading Program in each of the seven districts.

III. To continue to **Develop A Creative, Supportive Fellowship** by:
   A. Observing UMW Sunday (membership emphasis Sunday) on January 25, 2007, or an alternate date, in every unit throughout the conference.
   B. Collecting items as outlined in the current Material Resources for Mission Catalog, and presenting these items at the UMW Annual Meeting to Women's Division Projects in Louisiana—Dulac Cooperative Ministry, MacDonnell United Methodist Children's Services, St. Mark's Community Center, Sager-Brown/UMCOR, and Church Women United.
   C. Encouraging mini-mission volunteer work at Sager-Brown/UMCOR, where feasible, and education field trips to Women's Division Projects in Louisiana.

IV. To **Expand Concepts of Mission** by:
   A. Encouraging District and Local Units to use the 2007 Program Book, Response magazine, and the Prayer Calendar in program planning.
   B. Promoting and assisting each Local and District Unit in becoming a Mission Today Unit.
   C. Completing the requirements for membership in the Charter Club for Racial Justice.
   D. Increasing the number of participants in the Reading Program by 2%.
   E. Participating and supporting the programming of Church Women United, and the World Federation of Methodist Women.
   F. Increasing the number of Five Star Giving Units by 10%.

V. To **Participate in the Global Ministries of the Church** by:
   A. Paying our MISSION GIVING pledge in full.
   B. Supporting and promoting our Mission Candle and Mission Ribbons.

Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women
Proposed 2006 Additions/Amendments to
2005 Standing Rules & Guidelines

Rita Parham, Chairman, Standing Rules Committee

Conference Guidelines, Louisiana Conference UMW

Article II—elected leaders and their duties (C&B p. 30-34; Conf. Guidelines III, 3, p2)

Section 9. Communications Coordinator (C&B p34)

a. The Conference Newsletter shall be published 3 times a year, January 15, May 1, and August 1. Materials must be submitted to the editor at least six (6) weeks in advance of publication.

Expense Guidelines

A. Travel Expenses

1. Twenty-two (22) cents per mile shall be allowed for travel by car. When a van is occupied by at least six (6) people or more in a car pool, mileage will be paid at a flat rate of twenty-seven (27) cents per mile.
   To encourage car pooling, officers will be paid an additional two (2) cents per mile for each additional rider in a car or mini-van, up to twenty-seven (27) cents per mile. When district and conference officers travel together with expenses provided by their respective organizations, they shall submit pro rata shares of the expenses of these groups. Riders other than district and conference officers must assume their share of the expense.
2. Lodging may be reimbursed at a rate up to 1/4th the cost of the room per person per day for travel and within event time only.
3. Meals may be reimbursed at a rate up to $22.00 per person per day (to be divided between meals as desired). Meals for an event and/or travel that are less than one day will be reimbursed at a rate up to $5.00 for breakfast, $7.00 for lunch, and $10.00 for dinner, for travel and during event time only.

C. Dependent Care Subsidy

A Dependent Care Subsidy plan was adopted April 25, 1992. When a member of the Conference Executive Committee (elected or appointed) is required to attend Annual Meeting, Conference School of Christian Mission, Regional School of Christian Mission, Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting, District Elected Leaders Training, or a Women's Division Workshop, she MAY be paid a Dependent Care Subsidy up to $30 per day for hired care required for children 12 years of age or under/or for an invalid (ill, handicapped, blind) parent/spouse/or other dependent person residing in her home—providing this is an absolute necessity and that no other family member or friend is available to do this for her.

1. District elected leaders attending District Elected Leaders Training are qualified to apply for Dependent Care.

Guidelines for Honoraria

2. School of Christian Mission

First Aid Assistant	$ 75
One Person Serving as both Music Director and Pianist	$ 200

Conference Sponsored Workshops

$50 Per Leader / Total Maximum For All Leaders $200	$50/Not to Exceed $200

Guidelines for Honoring Retiring Conference Leaders (Special Mission Recognition Pins as indicated)

Retiring Elected Leaders

A. Conference President

Serving one (1) Two-Year Term Only	$ 500
Serving two (2) Two-Year Terms	$1,000

Retiring Members of the Committee on Nominations

C. Committee member serving 1-2 years, after being Chairperson	$ 35

Retiring Appointive Leaders

A. Assistant Chairperson of Conference Events	$ 35

Introducing the 2006 Annual Meeting Program Participants

JAN LOVE—Guest Speaker, began her tenure as chief executive of the Women's Division in August 2004. Known in the organization, the Church, ecumenically and academically, Ms. Love brought to the organization a variety of experiences which formed her as a leader.

Before coming to New York City, Ms. Love served for 22 years on the faculty of the University of South Carolina, teaching courses on religion and world politics, globalization and international political economy. She holds a PhD in political science from Ohio State University.

In May 2006, Ms. Love announced that she will leave the Women's Division to become Dean of the United Methodist Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. "Being head of the Women's Division has been one of the great joys of my life. I leave very reluctantly and am deeply honored I have this remarkable choice of two positions of church leadership offered to me." As Dean of Candler, she noted, she will lead "a great school of theology" as well as "hold a more healthy balance between my personal life and my career because I can reunite my household."

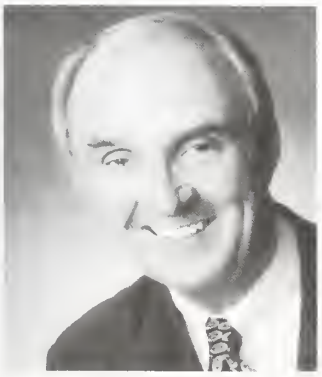
A prolific speaker and writer, she has addressed issues such as Christian unity, inter-religious concerns, issues affecting women, the global church, economics, and racial justice. She has published two books: *Southern Africa in World Politics: Local Aspirations and Global Entanglements* and *The U.S. Anti-Apartheid Movement: Local Activism in Global Politics.* Along with many academic journals, she's also written numerous articles on religion and politics for publications like *Christian Century, The Ecumenical Review, Sojourners, United Methodist Reporter, Zion's Herald, New World Outlook,* and *Response.* She's served as a keynote speaker and panelist around the United Methodist Church, at a variety of universities, for other denominations, and at the United Nations.

Her work came full circle when she returned to the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries this year. She served on the Board of Missions, then the Board of Global Ministries, 1970-1976. Ms. Love has been on the board of directors of the United Methodist General Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-religious Concerns, of Church World Service, and of the World Council of Churches.

In 1975, she was a youth delegate from The United Methodist Church to the World Council of Churches (WCC) Nairobi Assembly. Since then, she has served as a leader in several programs of the Council. In 1995, she headed the WCC delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. In 2000, the United Methodist Council of Bishops honored her in the presence of the General Conference for exceptional leadership in ecumenical arenas.

Born and raised in the South, Ms. Love led the Alabama West-Florida Conference Council on Youth Ministries, 1969-71. She now is a member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Columbia, SC.

Ms. Love has two children – a daughter in college and a son working as a research scientist. She is married to Peter Sederberg, a recently retired Dean at the University of South Carolina.

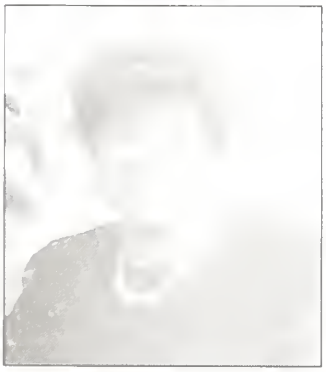


BISHOP WILLIAM W. HUTCHINSON—Communion Celebrant, has been the presiding Bishop of the Louisiana Conference since 2000. He came to us from the New Mexico conference foundation. Bishop Hutchinson received his B.A. Degree from the University of Oklahoma, a Master of Divinity from Duke University, and Honorary Doctor of Divinity from McMurray University and Centenary College. He is currently Vice President of the General Board of Church and Society as well as the Council of Bishops representative to RAAP (Religious Alliance Against Pornography). He and his wife, Kay, have two sons and one granddaughter

DR. ROBERT L. "BOB" BURGESS, Monroe District Superintendent, is a native of Arkansas. He is a graduate of NLU and Asbury Theological Seminary. In 1999 Centenary College honored him with a Doctor of Divinity Degree. He has served as pastor of several churches throughout the Louisiana Conference, Broadmoor UMC in Baton Rouge being his most recent. Dr. Burgess has served the conference on various boards and committees, and is presently a member of the Board of the LA Methodist Children's Home in Ruston and the Episcopacy Committee of South Central Jurisdiction. Bob and his wife, Peggy have two daughters and four grandchildren. Dr. Burgess will bring greeting from the Monroe District.

REV. R. LARRY STAFFORD, Host Pastor, is a native of Franklinton. He received his B.S. degree from LSU and his Master of Divinity from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Rev. Stafford has been a member of the Conference Center Board of Trustees and the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, as well as chairman of the District Board of Trustees and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Louisiana United Methodist Foundation. He was a delegate to the 1992-2000 and 2004 Jurisdictional Conferences. He and his wife, Rita, have two children and two grandsons. Rev. Stafford will bring greetings on behalf of the First United Methodist Church, Monroe.

REV. JO ANN COOPER was appointed in June 2001 and served as pastor for Bartholomew and Beekman United Methodist Churches before her appointment in June 2005 as associate pastor for First United Methodist Church in Monroe. She attends the Mississippi Course of Study at Millsaps College in Jackson, is married to Ed Cooper, and enjoys leading small group studies and retreats, as well as golf and music. Rev. Cooper will bring the opening meditation on Friday.



LUEBURDA J. MYERS, a native of Napoleonville, Louisiana, is married to Kenneth Myers and they have two adult sons and six grandchildren. She is a retired teacher from Caddo Parish Public School District, currently employed by the City of Shreveport Parks and Recreation Department as Superintendent of Recreation and Promotions. Lueburda is a member of St. Paul UMC. She has served on the Shreveport District UMW Mission Team, as Louisiana Conference UMW representative to the West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission, and was elected to serve on the 1988-1992 South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group. She was a delegate to both the 2004 General and South Central Jurisdictional Conferences. Lueburda served as Louisiana Conference UMW President, 2002-2005, and is currently serving on the Louisiana Conference UMW Committee on Nominations, Class of 2009. Lueburda will be conducting the recognition of Retiring Officers.

ELOUISE SANDERS is an active member of Mt. Mariah United Methodist Church. She serves as church treasurer and teaches an adult Sunday School class. She is president of the Arcadia unit of United Methodist Women. Elouise has served as President of Ruston District United Methodist Women, and as Louisiana Conference President of United Methodist Women from 1998-2001. Elouise will install the United Methodist Women Officers for 2007.

Annual Meeting Music Team

ANNETTE FORTUNA is married to Dave Fortuna, pastor of Noel Memorial UMC in Shreveport. She has been a UMW Sunday guest speaker for many churches, led Spiritual Growth retreats, led singing for Cursillo and United Methodist Women Annual Meetings, and been a study leader and song leader at United Methodist Women Schools of Christian Mission. She is currently helping with contemporary worship services at her church in addition to ringing hand bells and teaching Bible studies. In all her spare time, she enjoys her two daughters and their families – 4 granddaughters and one grandson. Annette will be our Song Leader for Annual Meeting.

HUNT NEELY was born in Warren, Arkansas and grew up in Farmerville, LA. He considers himself to be truly blessed to have two jobs that he loves. He has been the organist at First UMC, Monroe for 20 years; and he is Controller and Chief Financial Officer for The Forsythe Group, Inc., managing over 40 million dollars in assets. He is married to the former Cynthia Day, an artist whose work is in private and public displays across the United States. They have two daughters, Morgan and Lindsay. Hunt will be our Organist for the Annual Meeting.

Louisiana Conference UMW Honors Kathleen Carter Conrad At 2006 Annual Conference

At the 2006 Louisiana Annual Conference, UMW President Harriette Elrod presented a Special Mission Recognition pin to honor Kathleen Carter Conrad. This recognition may be made annually to an outstanding recipient selected by the Conference UMW President in consultation with the Conference Administrative Committee.

Kathleen Conrad is a native of Geneva, NY and attended Central Missouri State University. She is married to Rev. Clifton C. Conrad Sr., pastor of Immanuel UMC in Lafayette, LA. She is the mother of Chantel Conrad and Clifton Conrad Jr. She is employed with the Acadiana Otolaryngology Group in Lafayette, and is a certified lay speaker of the Louisiana Conference UMC.

Kathleen has served in leadership with her local UMW unit and with the Acadiana District as Secretary for Financial Interpretation. She has also served the Louisiana Conference UMW as Historian, Annual Meeting Chairperson, Communications Coordinator, Standing Rules Committee Member, Dean of the 2004 School of Christian Mission and Vice President. She represented the Louisiana Conference for the 1996 South Central Jurisdiction Meeting, and was a member of the South Central Jurisdiction Core Planning Group from 1996-2000, serving as their representative to the UMW National Seminar in 1999. She has chaired the Committee on Nominations for the West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission and was a member of their Planning Team. She served as UMW representative to the World Federation of Methodist and Church Uniting Women North America Seminar in 2002, and chaired the site committee for the Regional VII North American Area Seminar.

Kathleen Carter Conrad
Women's Division Director

Kathleen has chaired the Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women, participated in the Volunteer in Mission Program, served on the Committee on Nominations and the Committee to Study Re-Districting for the Louisiana Annual Conference. She is presently an at-large member of their Ministry Team.

In 2004 she was elected as a Director of the Women's Division where she serves in the sections of Membership and International Ministries. She is also a Reading Program evaluator. She presently serves on the board of directors for the General Board of Global Ministries of the UMC in the sections of Personnel and Mission Education.

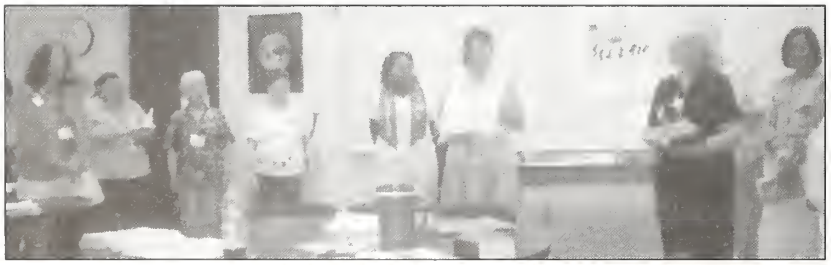
West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission—Winfield, Kansas

Conference President Harriette Elrod and Maribel Calvo, La. Conf. Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture & Outreach, are delighted that our Louisiana Conference received the award at West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission for the most NEW local UMW units. We all give the glory to God for working so hard with our UMW Mission Teams throughout Louisiana, especially in a the aftermaths of Katrina and Rita.

(Above Left) Jan Rose, La. Conf. Secretary, onstage as one of the "Do-Wop Trio" (right) performing at Regional School of Christian Mission in the Plenary on Globalization. They connected us all with yarn to show how we are all "bound together," and we sang to ask the Lord to "bind us together with cords that cannot be broken—bind us together with love!"

(Above Right) Edna Hickman, La. Conf. Vice President, onstage as Lyla (right) a Jew from Ethiopia, on an annual pilgrimage and to visit Arunya, a Christian living in India. After many years they question the "walls of protection" we build all over the world that really keep us from building "peace" and knowing each other "face-to-face."

We Pray, Sing, Listen, Share Dialogue in Class, and Discover New Ideas To Bring Home to YOU!



(Left) Staphenae Carey, and Bev Cox participate in a class on "Shalom-Salaam-Peace" - discovering the ways our faiths are similar and diverse. Lively discussion was present in all the classes.

Gathered to lead Early Morning Liturgical Impressions to Glorify God at Regional School of Mission: Left-Right (Front Row) Lana Lathan, Jane Eubanks, Maribel Calvo. (Second Row) Harriette Elrod, Jan Dickerson, Mary Quinones. (Back Row) Pam Crews, Staphenae Carey, Doret Gilbert-Wilson, Edna Hickman, Tillie Shows, Bev Cox, Evelyn Martin, Jan Rose, and Rev. Clifton Conrad Sr.

(Above) Maribel Calvo, onstage at the Plenary on India & Pakistan, holds a cross made from sticks used by liturgical dancers to represent hard work in childhood, injustice for women, and yet learning about the love of Christ Jesus from the Bible Women from Isabella Thoburn College in India.

Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission

Taylor Phillips, Edna Hickman, Marian Griffin, Hallique Dawson, Juanita Legard and others help gather the Layette Kits for UMCOR at School of Missions. 92 Kits were received from UMW units throughout the state, for a total value of $3,220.00.

(Above) Talented Dorothy "Jackie" Pennington leads our wonderful volunteer choir in a song of praise to God! (Below) Jackie accompanies our teens at the Louisiana School in a closing song that "brought down the house!" The song was entitled "God's Child." We are so very proud of all of our teen participants, lead by Lueburda Myers and Doret Gilbert-Wilson (Teen Study Leaders).

Who's Driving The Car?

Familiar to the Globalization classes at the 2006 Louisiana Conference School of Christian Mission, the above question was the subject of much debate and lively discussion. Through lecture, the media, and small group discussions, our study leaders assisted us in becoming more knowledgeable about the issues concerning India & Pakistan, our commitment toward being instruments of peace, and our responsibility to be better stewards of what has been entrusted to us by God.

There were 135 women and teens in attendance at the school which was recently held at the Wesley Center in Woodworth, LA. Of that total, 22 were First Timers! In her evaluation, one first timer summed it up this way: "I leave here excited, uplifted, and ready to share."

I count it a blessing to have served as your Dean and pray that all who attended will encourage others to attend SCM next year. May the fellowship and your experiences at this year's school renew your spirit and energize and prepare you for service!

Shalom! Salaam! Peace!

Staphenae Carey, Dean

(Below) Estelle Dameron Scholarship Recipients participate in the plenary on India & Pakistan. They are liturgical dancers portraying illiteracy, child labor and those women who have learned about the God of love and peace from the Isabella Thoburn Bible women. Our officers at Regional School participated in this plenary and brought it home to share with local units at La. SCM.

Louisiana UMW "Shines" at Assembly

One of the featured displays at our Louisiana Conference UMW Annual Meeting in Monroe will be the exquisite Louisiana Banner which was carried to Assembly at Anaheim in May, 2006. This truly beautiful "Message of Hope" was intricately designed and sewn by Mary Core (pictured at left) with the assistance of Bev Cox (right). Mary is a member of Fitzgerald UMC in Folsom, in the New Orleans District. This beautiful banner portrays both the Theme of Assembly and our Annual Meeting—"Rise! Shine! Glorify God!"

Smelling Forgiveness

Tidying up before leaving for West Gulf Regional School of Christian Mission, I noticed a book that I had purchased recently, but still had not opened. I quickly fanned through it, to remind myself why I purchased it. The pages fell open to a definition of forgiveness—a definition I read over and over several times. I wanted to memorize it. I was so touched by the definition that I shared it with a few friends and then with all those in my class at Regional School who were studying peace. Forgiveness is a key ingredient for peace. Here's the definition that touched my heart. I hope it is meaningful to you too:

"Forgiveness is like the violet,
Sending forth its pure fragrance
On the heel of the boot
Of the one who crushed it."
-Author Unknown

"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."
Matthew 6: 14-15

Beverly Cox,
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY

******* News Release *******

United Methodist Women's Online Community

Go to www.umwonline.org NOW to pre-register.

Through the Women's Division, the Online Community will enhance the ways United Methodist Women members communicate with each other. By using technology, it will be possible for UMW members and women around the world to have a common platform from which to move beyond traditional limitations of time and space. The Online Community is an opportunity to share the love of Christ and the United Methodist tradition in new, creative ways. This is an online community, not a website.

Participants have the highest security and privacy afforded online, and the community is available to you at no cost!

ONLINE TO YOU!
24/7 AVAILABILITY!
IN YOUR ROBE, AT LUNCH,
AFTER DINNER & FOR NIGHT OWLS!

BE INSTANTLY UP—TO—DATE
ON UMW MISSION EVENTS
AND UMW MISSION GIVING
IN THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE!

COMING THIS FALL!
Send your email address to Mary Quinones, Communications Coordinator, and be on our Private La. Conference UMW Email List to receive notice of webpage opening and newsletter publications.
Email: pmquinones2@aol.com

D.E.L.T.—Training Event
For District Elected Leadership

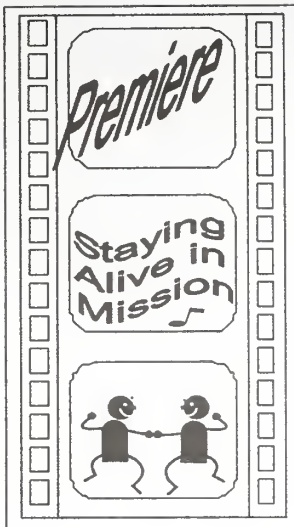
Grab your popcorn at the **Premiere** of **Stayin'Alive in Mission.** Find the fun in fundamentals and the joy in your job. This is an event you won't want to miss! Can you laugh and sing and dance your way through organizing? Can you communicate with a grin and a giggle and a wink? Can planning be pleasant? You bet! Draw a big smilie face on your calendar at October 14 ☺. Then fill out the DELT registration form and send it to Bev Cox before the end of September. Don't forget to take along that twinkle in your eye. Bev and Tillie are expecting you!

2006-2007—Upcoming Events/Meetings Conference UMW

Sept.	14	Executive Committee Meeting (Monroe)
Sept.	15-16	**LA Conference UMW Annual Meeting, First UMC, Monroe (All Units Attend)**
October	14	**UMW District Elected Leaders Training, First UMC Alexandria**
November	11	Conference Program Committee Meeting, School of Christian Mission Task Force, & Annual Meeting Task Force Meetings.
November	17-19	Conference Officers Leadership Training Event—St. Louis, MO
January	25	**United Methodist Women's Sunday (Celebrated at Local Unit Churches)**

2006—District Annual Meetings

Acadiana	Nov. 4	Sager Brown Center
Alexandria	Nov. 11	Pollock UMC
Baton Rouge	Nov. 4	First UMC of Denham Springs
Lake Charles	Oct. 28	Oak Park UMC Lake Charles
Monroe	Nov. 4	McGuire UMC West Monroe
New Orleans	Oct. 28	Munholland UMC of Metairie
Shreveport	Oct. 21	Asbury UMC Bossier City



Stayin' Alive in Mission

District
Elected
Leadership
Training Event

October 14, 2006
First UMC, Alexandria

Director – Beverly Cox
Producer – Tillie Shows

9:30 a.m.	~	Registration
10:00 a.m.	~	Movin' & Groovin'
11:30 a.m.	~	Disk-go Eat
12:15 p.m.	~	Star Search
1:15 p.m.	~	Smooth Move Awards
2:00 p.m.	~	Keep on Groovin' (The End)

For ALL Returning and Newly Elected District and Conference Officers

Please complete the form below:

Mail form by 9/30/06 to: Beverly Cox - DELT
507 Teakwood Circle
Mandeville, LA 70448

DELT Event Registration Form

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zip_____

Phone No._____

Email _____

Office Title_____

District_____

_____Newly Elected ♫ _____Returning

MISSION GIVING

Praise God! We are down but not out. **"Mission Giving," "New Name," "Same Love,"** was the chant we heard at both 2006 Regional and Conference Schools of Christian Mission. I believe Mission Giving! Mission Possible! keeps UMW Alive. Our 1st quarter giving was more than in 2005, with 2nd quarter giving only slightly under 2005. Did you know that Women's Division came forward with help with some of our A&MD expenses? This came from contributions of UMW units all across the United States.

Women's Division also sent **Special Scholarship Funds** for twelve (12) women from our hurricane devastated areas to cover their room, board and books for La. Conf. SCM. And our Offering at La. SCM was $854.00 for Mission Giving, plus $190.44 for the World Thank Banks at School. Are you as proud of UM Women and Women's Division as I am?

Reminders—Third quarter reports need to be in on time, because this report helps your units earn **Five Star Certificates**; and it takes 75% of local units in each district to become a Five Star District. Meet the challenge! Also, in preparation for **Annual Meeting Candle Book**, the Mission Candle reports need to be sent to me before September 1, 2006. Your giving goes through your District Treasurer.

Women and children all over the globe count on us! Give as you are able and as God leads you.

Jane N. Eubanks, UMW Conference Treasurer

Special Offering for District and Conference Retiring Officers

Units of United Methodist Women throughout the Louisiana Conference join at this time of year to contribute to a Special Offering in honor of the women who are completing terms as District and Conference Officers in United Methodist Women. This Special Offering is your opportunity to say "Thank You" to those local women who have given their skills, energy and time in positions of connectional leadership. The offering will be used to honor retirees with either a Gift to Mission Card or a Special Mission Recognition Pin, determined by the level of service and length of time served in office.

To participate in this gesture of appreciation, please send your gifts to the District Treasurer with your unit's quarterly report. Many units are including this offering as a line item in their annual budgets. All contributions for this offering will be applied to your Local and District Pledges to Mission Giving.

Your contributions in the past have been very generous. The retiring officers appreciate this acknowledgement of their service in mission. We know you will want to continue this fine tradition and participate in honoring those women who are retiring this year.

Make plans to attend the 2006 Conference Annual Meeting at First United Methodist Church, Monroe, September 15-16, at which time the Retiring Conference Officers will be honored.

District Officers will be honored within the districts at their District Annual Meetings in October and November.

MISSION CANDLE

2006 COST OF MISSION SUPPORT

1 SECOND	**$**	**.58**
1 MINUTE	**$**	**34.88**
5 MINUTES	**$**	**174.40**
1 HOUR	**$**	**2,092.83**

The lighting of the **MISSION CANDLE** will again be a significant part of our Conference Annual Meeting, to be held on September 15-16, 2006 at First UMC, Monroe, LA. The Candle was first burned at the 1979 Conference Annual Meeting as a Centennial Celebration of women organized for mission. Because of the loving and diligent promotion of Shirley Hoffpauir, then serving as Conference Treasurer, the Tradition of the Mission Candle has evolved to represent our past, present and future as women organized for mission. Units and individuals will want to be a part of this meaningful expression of our united commitment to a worldwide program of mission outreach.

Gifts may be given **IN MEMORY or IN HONOR OF** persons whose names will be inscribed by district in a CONFERENCE MISSION CANDLE BOOK displayed near the candle. Each district will take home its list of names to display at District Annual Meetings. PLEASE NOTE that the person or unit giving the gift is responsible for notifying honorees and/or families of those memorialized. The MISSION CANDLE will burn for the exact length of time our total gifts will support mission through the Women's Division. When these funds would be used up, the candle will be extinguished. OUR GOAL is to burn the candle throughout the Conference Annual Meeting. This goal can be realized if every unit gives 1 minute or more for the MISSION CANDLE. However, there is no minimum or maximum gift requirement. All monies are incorporated into each District's PLEDGE TO MISSION GIVING.

Please use this form to list names, indicating in which section each name is to be inscribed. Send the form with your check to your District Treasurer by September 1st.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT—(If more space is needed, attach additional sheets. DO NOT write on back.)

Individual/Unit submitting form:_____

Church:_____ District _____

City: _____ Phone ( )_____

Given by: Name of Individual/Unit In HONOR of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Given by: Name of Individual Unit In MEMORY of:

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ _____

ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Rise! Shine! Glorify God!

Scripture: Psalm 106: 1-5

Song Leader: Annette Fortuna

Organist: Hunt Neely

FRIDAY AFTERNOON **1:00 PM**

Musical Prelude
Processional of Conference Officers
Invocation
Convening of the 33rd Annual Meeting — Harriette Elrod
Affirming the PURPOSE
Opening Hymn
Welcome — Bishop William Hutchinson
Presentation of Program — Sandy DeCelle and Jo Hale
Recognition of Visitors — Harriette Elrod
Lighting of Mission Candle
Opening Meditation — **Rev. Jo Ann Cooper**
Announcements

*** B R E A K ***

UMW Sings
BUSINESS SESSION
Appointment to Examine Journal
Mission Team Reports — Conference Officers
Committee on Nominations — Evelyn Martin
Election of Officers
President's Report — Harriette Elrod
Greetings from Jurisdiction — Pat Cobb, President
Church Women United
Project Leaders Reports
Service for Retiring Officers — Lueburda Myers
Closing Hymn

CLOSE OF AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvene at 6:30 p.m.— Banquet at Holiday Inn/Suites

FRIDAY EVENING **6:30 PM**

BANQUET PROGRAM

Music
Welcome
Words of Grace
Dinner
Special Entertainment
Introduction of Speaker — Edna Hickman
Evening Message — **Dr. Jan Love**

"Turning the World Upside Down for Jesus' Sake"

Acts 17: 1-9

Announcements & Benediction

SATURDAY MORNING **8:30 AM**

UMW Sings
Devotion
Introduction of Speaker — Edna Hickman
Message — **Dr. Jan Love**

"Find Us Faithful"

Hebrews 12: 1-2

Pledge Service — Jane Eubanks and Tillie Shows
Offertory Prayer
Doxology
Registration Report
Special Mission Recognition — Harriette Elrod
Installation of Officers — Elouise Sanders
Invitation to 2007 Annual Meeting
Announcements
Adjournment of Annual Meeting

*** B R E A K ***

Special Music — Sandra and Johnny Wilkins, Tallulah UMC
Communion Meditation — **Rev. Robert L. Burgess**
Holy Communion — **Bishop William Hutchinson, Communion Celebrant**
Closing Hymn
POSTLUDE

WORLD THANK OFFERING

What a wonderful gift God gave us, and what better way to show our thanks than through our gifts to the World Thank Offering during October. Inserted in this newsletter is an October Calendar of 31-Derful Way To Say Thanks. It is fun to use it each day to collect the money we will use for this offering, and Daily Scripture is included to combine with your prayers of thanks. Drop the coins into a small box or jar each day and watch it accumulate. Then bring it to your Unit Meeting when you have the World Thank Offering Service.

ANNUAL MEETING OFFERING FOR MISSION GIVING

On Saturday morning of Annual Meeting, an offering will be taken for **MISSION GIVING.** Please come prepared to contribute to this important gift. Also, remember the "Mission Candle" and "One Second of Your Time" as you honor loved ones. These gifts help increase our Mission Giving and keep the Mission Candle burning as long as possible during the Annual Meeting.

All room reservations must be made by August 31, 2006. Tell reservation clerk that you are with the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Women. A hospitality room will be available at the hotel for those persons who are not registered at the hotel.

Holiday Inn
HOTEL & SUITES

1051 U.S. HWY 165 Bypass
Monroe, LA 71203
318.387.5100 Phone 318.387.0334 Fax

Call for Reservations
1-800-942-4868
or 318-387-5100
Or Fax 318-387-0334

RESERVATION FORM

Group Name: United Methodist Women Dates: September 14 & 15 2006
Reservation Code: AUM

Arrival Date_____ Departure Date_____

Room Type:		Number of rooms	
	1 King Bed	_____	@ $63.00 per night
	2 Double Beds	_____	@$63.00 per night
	Atrium Suite	_____	@$89.00 per night

Smoking Room_____ Non Smoking Room____(check one)

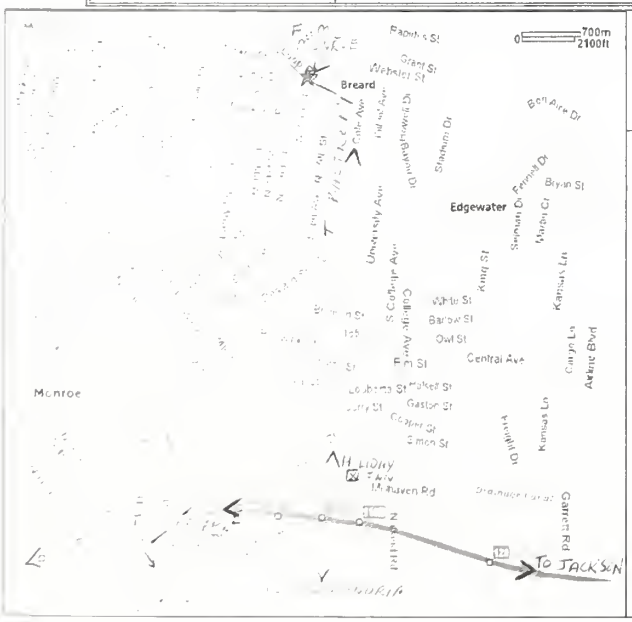
***If more than one person in each room please fill out the rooming list on the next page. If the bill is to be split and paid for by different forms of payment please list individual credit cards for each person.**

Cut off for reservations is: **31 August 06**

To honor above rate, we require a guaranteed arrival in the form of cash, check or credit card. Rooms that are guaranteed and not cancelled by 6:00PM will be charged the first nights room and tax.
Tax exempt certificates must be presented at the time of check-in.
Special Requests_____
_____
Arrival time (Check-in time is 3:00PM): _____
Departure time (Check-out time is 12:00PM): _____
Rollaways $10.00 plus tax per night
The Holiday Inn will work with all special requests, but based on room availability, requests can not be guaranteed, including check-ins prior to 3:00pm.
School Name _____
Credit Card Type_____ Number_____Exp Date_____
Main Contact Name_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____Zip Code_____
Telephone Number_____ Email Address_____
A block of rooms has been reserved for your group. The block will be available until **31 Aug 06** or until all rooms under the block has been filled. The hotel reserves the right to not extend the group block past the original cut-off date.
The hotel will contact you with a confirmation number. If you do not hear from the hotel within 10 days of sending your reservation form in, please contact hotel to verify the form has been received. The hotel is not responsible for lost reservation forms. Please fill out the attached rooming list for multiple rooms.

Rooming List:
First name listed will be name in which reservation will be held

ROOM	GUEST NAME	CREDIT CARD NUMBER & EXP.DATE



Other Hotel Options (Adjacent to Holiday Inn)

Stratford House Inn, 318-388-8868, Room Rate $51.00

La Quinta Inn, Toll Free 800-531-5900 or 318-322-3900, Room Rate $60.00.

DIRECTIONS TO HOLIDAY INN & FIRST UMC:

- **From I-20 East or West:** Take Bastrop Exit 118A coming from West, or 118B coming from East. Go North on Hwy. 165 to Holiday Inn on right. Turn right on Service Road just past Hotel to get to hotel.
- **From Highway 165 North:** Cross Hwy. 80, turn left at the 2nd traffic light (Louberta St), and immediately turn right on Service Road to go to Hotel.
- **From Highway 165 South:** Just past I-20, which goes East-West, the Holiday Inn will be on the right. Turn right on Service Road just past Hotel o get to hotel.
- **To First UMC from the Holiday Inn:** Leave Hotel and turn right onto Highway 165 North. After crossing Highway 80, look for McDonald's. At the traffic light at that intersection, turn left onto Loop Road. Go 2 blocks and you will see the church.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MONROE, LA

Registration

Registration will begin at First United Methodist Church, Monroe, Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 15, 2006. Signs will be posted to direct you to registration tables. Each District will have a table and someone from your District (President and Treasurer) will be there to assist you.

MORE ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING

- **Retired Missionaries and Deaconesses** residing within Conference may attend the Annual Meeting at conference expense (which includes housing and travel). They must send in a registration form and pay registration and banquet fees.
- **Each person who attends Annual Meeting must register and pay the $8.00 registration fee (including all officers).** The fee includes insurance coverage throughout the meeting and until you return home.
- **Sandwiches** will be available in Fellowship Hall on Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and on Saturday after the Communion Service. **Continental Breakfast** will be served in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.
- **Friday Evening Banquet** will be held at the Holiday Inn at 6:30 p.m. You must pre-register and the cost of $15.00 is not refundable. **The planned meal is:** Grilled Chicken, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Tossed Green Salad, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Desserts, Iced Tea and Coffee.

REGISTRATION FORM
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

September 15-16, 2006
First United Methodist church,
Monroe, La

Send Registration Form to: Jane N. Eubanks
44040 Parker Blvd.
Hammond, LA 70403
(985) 419-8741
teachpreach@I-55.com

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
September 5, 2006

Make check Payable to: Louisiana Conference UMW

Pre-Registration Fee	$ 8.00
Onsite Registration Fee	$10.00
Banquet Fee	$15.00

Name _____

Address _____

_____
City Zip Code

Phone (____) _____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- ☐ Conference Office—Specify _____
- ☐ Conference Executive Committee _____
- ☐ District Office—Specify _____
- ☐ Former Conference President or Guild Secretary
- ☐ Retired Missionary or Deaconess
- ☐ Local Unit Member
- ☐ Voting Delegate
- ☐ Guest

MEALS:

☐ Friday Lunch ☐ Saturday Breakfast ☐ Saturday Lunch

☐ Banquet (Non-Refundable) - Include with Registration

Church _____

City _____ District _____

Number in Unit _____

Where will you be staying during meeting? _____

Will Child Care Service be needed? _____

Age of Child/Children (none older than 10 years) _____

(Child Care services will NOT be available during banquet.)

NOTE: Registration Fee includes: Cost of insurance from time of departure until return home, registration packet, and a portion of meeting expenses

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All articles, news, feature stories, trivia information, puzzles, and recipes are welcome.
This Newsletter is published three times a year.

Deadline for Articles & Information:
January 15 Newsletter—Due Date Dec. 1, 2006
May 1 Newsletter—Due Date March 15, 2007
August 1 Newsletter—Due Date June 15, 2007

Send your article(s) to Mary Quinones by:
Mail—10306 Elizabeth Rose Ct
Houston, TX 77089
Phone—281-464-7460
Email—pmquinones2@aol.com

MOVED? ADDRESS/NAME CHANGED?
Send correct names, addresses and email information
To: Mary Quinones, Communications Coordinator
10306 Elizabeth Rose Ct., Houston, TX 77089
Call: (281) 464-7460, or
Email: pmquinones2@aol.com

Louisiana Conference
United Methodist Women

Mary Quinones, Editor
4904 Bissonet Dr.
Metairie, LA 70003-1138

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